

THE BONZE,  
CHINESE ANCHORITE.

an  
ORIENTAL EPIC NOVEL.

*Translated from the Mandarin Language,  
of Hoamchi-vam, a Tartarian Proselite,*

*by Mons<sup>r</sup>. D. Alençon,*

*Dedicated to Lord Fitzwaring, Son & Heir of the  
Earl of Hillsborough Secretary of State for the*

*NORTHERN COLONIES*

*With adventurous wing exploring new-found  
Worlds, the Orient Muse unfettered with Rhyme  
who Sings of Heaven, of Earth, and Man's new  
mutations: Strives to mingle instruction with  
delight, in hope to gain the smile of Approbation.*

Vol. 1.

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T O

LORD KILWARLING,

Son and Heir of the Right Honourable

The EARL of HILLSBOROUGH,

Secretary of State for the Northern Colonies.

MY LORD,

**S**ATISFIED that your condescension will accept the oblation of duty, and your politeness readily pardon the mistake of Respect, which alas! too often gives offence in its efforts to oblige; to you my Lord I presume to dedicate this Piece: for where among the youth of quality, could I select a nobleman, that would more honour my discernment than your Lordship? Possessing from Nature a fine disposition, and an extensive capacity, your mind and manners have been formed into elegance, under the auspices of an illustrious father—a father whose noble talents,

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diffusive Knowledge, penetrative Judgment, Honour and Loyalty, have rendered him the choice of a good and great King, to preside over affairs of the highest consequence.—And it is my noblest boast, that I stand in some degree of propinquity, to a personage equally to be esteemed for the qualities of head and heart, as for the nobility of his titles, and the grandeur of his high office; happy indeed if I could approximate the sublimity of that genius, which like the morning star, I can only view at humble distance, through the telescope of admiration!

The reason, my lord, why the Chinese author calls this piece Epic, is more from its treating of sublime subjects, than for its being narration. The flowery exuberance of his numerous style, may be compared to the Garden of Eden, rich with a thousand luxuriant charms, that required the pruning knife, which at best would but sever a beauty from the grace of free Nature, who flights the prim nicety of Art! Though founding periods are often employed, endeavours are frequently made towards that



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that melting simplicity, in which the French so much delight: and your lordship will find this translation has followed the eastern taste, ever fond of elevated language, yet not correct in its elegance: and indeed the nice eye of judgment, is seldom pleased in a review of ornaments. In St. Paul's Cathedral, that beautiful structure, it beholds with distaste, those embellishments so charming to Fancy; for there angels are employed to support a little cornice. Thus like the discourse of Isocrates, it would require ten years to bring this work to perfection, that was obliged to be finished in a few months: and in a composition so difficult, errors must abound; but Humility forms this request, that the detection may be followed by clemency.

While he attempts to charm juvenile Fancy, by the majestic pomp of language, a variety of striking incidents, and a lofty subject glancing through the Miltonic theme, I indulge myself to hope it will not be altogether unworthy your lordship's patronage, from its tendency to exalt Virtue, depress Vice, and show the  
picture

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picture of Religion in a light the most amiable.

Straitened by time, I wish perfection had given the language all the finished graces of eloquence, and the music of flowing periods; but that being the secondary praise of writing, I hope every inaccuracy will be compensated by noble sentiments, sublime images, and copious invention. 'Tis from candour such as yours, my lord, that innumerable faults meet pardon, while the severity of criticism, disallowing the frailty of human-nature, for a few errors would overthrow the whole edifice.

Confessing then my own imbecility, let me trust, that the candour which I celebrate will smile auspicious indulgence on humble intention however defective; while I profess myself, with the greatest respect,

MY LORD,

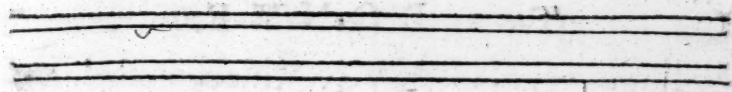
Your Lordship's most devoted,

And most obsequious Servant,

D'ALENZON.







T H E

*s/e*

# B O N Z E:

O R,

## CHINESE ANCHORITE.

**F**OLDED in the flowery figure of eastern allegory, the feminal moral of this piece may be considered as an apology at once for the Christian religion, and the origin of evil. Before the splendid structure was erected, in laying down the plan, the grand design was to attract the most philosophic by its sublime magnificence, and to charm the young, the gay, and thoughtless, into thought, and the love of ethic truth by the elegance of its enrichments. Thus the rugged paths of Virtue, which at first appear very painful, are rendered, with all their sharp asperities, desirable, by the certain happiness to which she is the noble conductress; and which gradually opens in the travel of life to the delighted eye, till absolute possession: while, on the other hand,

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the

the flowery gardens of Vice, which, on their entrance are deliciously charming, may be to the least judicious, rendered suspected, and at length be given up, when stubborn fact speaks in a variety of examples, which incontestibly declare, that gay Indulgence, with all her bewitching blandishments, the seeming benefactress of youth, the only bestower of delight, is at heart a cruel and deceitful sorceress, who, by the sweet intoxication of voluptuous pleasure, pollutes and degrades the soul, till she plunges it with unfeeling rigour, into the deepest gulf of misery.

Such are the triumphs of Indulgence! But with candour judge where form is boldly given to Morality; and, when adapting high opinions to the emolument of Virtue, sentiment is personified: nor be startled at a pompous diction, which deviates from the quaint neatness of cold Simplicity; for here the subject often requires the most elevated expressions.

Come then ye, who straying through the groves of thoughtless gait, shun the solitary avenues which lead to grave-forbidding Instruction; now you may find a guide, who going through the blooming paths of pleasure, will conduct you to the magnificent temple of Wisdom, which forms the grand termination. There, on a splendid throne, not now a Cynic, Wisdom's rosy queen, arrayed in the gorgeous robes of sublime grandeur, crowned with a celestial diadem, holding the sceptre of Creation,



tion, attended with angelic powers, at whose footstool is chained direful evil; shall, from the tuneful lips of eloquence, give you an entertainment more enchanting that the banquets *than* of festivity.

Those sublime ideas, so necessary to exercise mankind, in order to withdraw the too much attracted fancy, from the sweet delusions of transitory elegance, and fix it upon superior and immortal grandeur; those lofty ideas can never be agreeably introduced to the young, the gay, and witty, by the mouth of severely-frowning Morality, or the lips of sage Philosophy. No, this task is reserved for silken pleasure, purple-winged, blooming beauty, dropping odours; who, with dimpled smiles, leads her delighted votaries through the brilliant paths of intellectual delicacy, amidst delicious groves, lucid fountains, and gorgeous palaces: who, flying aloft on the wings of enraptured imagination, will introduce them into the very heavens; approaching as it were, the pavilion throne of Deity! viewing his wonderful works, in the company of beings the most glorious; till bright Religion arrests them to adore its author, to start back from cruel Vice, and to follow goodness in the delightful gardens of ever vernal happiness.

Captain Wilford, and Mr. Theodore Johnson, after they had secured the rich purchase of tea, china, and silk, which they had made of

the Chinese, agreed to walk on the delightful banks of a magnificent canal. Though the glorious eye of day was declining towards the golden pavilion, which receives it behind the lofty mountains; still it shot a sultry ray through the balmy zephyr, stored with spicy fragrance, borrowed from ripening orange groves; and they sheltered themselves in the cooling shade of a cedar thicket. As they were discoursing on the mighty Revolution in China, brought about by the violent eruption of Tartars, who now possess that most glorious empire; they naturally came to remark on that surprising opinion which has prevailed so much in the east, and particularly among the ancient Chinese; the transmigration of the soul from one body to another. Captain Wilford said, I find Theodore, by your being so conversant with the Chinese, you have imbibed with your tea their strange sentiments; and the metempsychosis of Pythagoras is one of your favourite tenets; which appears to me, who have, indeed, thought but very little on that abstruse subject, extremely ridiculous; and it seems comical beyond reasoning, that a human soul should be hopping about with the body of a flea. To which Theodore replied, ridicule can never be admitted to bear the test of truth, for she can banter things the most solemn and sacred, and lend Folly arms to baffle the arguments of Reason and Wisdom.



Wisdom. If we trace the opinion to its fountain head, we shall find it has flowed down the spring of tradition from the earliest accounts of time. It seems probable that it was revealed in a casual manner to the patriarchs, and from their traditions, adopted by the Egyptians, was countenanced by Jews, and received by all the world. When the great Pythagoras travelled out of Greece in search of wisdom, and came into Egypt, the university of the world; at length he was initiated into the mysteries of the priests; and then he either received or confirmed the doctrine of the metempsychosis, completed it regularly into a system, and by him, through the many regions of the world he travelled it was propagated: so cogent were his arguments, and the doctrine so adapted to human meditation.

In succeeding ages, when philosophy grew extremely refined, when geniuses of great capacity and learning arose, who admitted no speculation but from the nicest discussion, though continually jarring in their sentiments, yet, almost all the great men of antiquity admitted and adopted something of the doctrine of pre-existence; however, they differed in their notions of its manner. Homer, Virgil, Cicero, Plato, Aristotle, and Socrates, were of this persuasion, and some of them champions of its cause; particularly the refined Plato, who declares, that human knowledge is but remi-

reminiscence, or the recovery of ideas : not to mention many of the wisest Christians, such as Origen, &c. who saw it coincide with Christianity itself. Therefore the sentiment cannot be so absurd and ridiculous as you imagine.

As they travers'd the little wood, they heard the infant cries of something in misery, and casting their eyes around, beheld a beautiful spotted fawn, wounded by a small painted dart, lying panting on the ground, seemingly in the greatest agony from its wound ; it cast up its languid eyes, intercessively of compassion, with such lamb-like innocence, while the tears dropped down its cheeks, as awak'd kind pity in their hearts.

They stopt, and endeavour'd to extract the arrow, but finding it impracticable, they released it from its sufferings, and deposited the body under a tree. This, says Theodore, is the act of some Tartar, who ridicules the practice of the old Chinese. You see, my friend, the utility of the doctrine, for if it appears absurd not to kill any creature for food, and to take a sacred care of animals, on the supposition of their containing our progenitors, there is piety in the notion however ; and it certainly destroys cruelty, root and branch, to the helpless race, while it recommends the beauty of compassion. Likewise it carries one of the most striking morals among heathens, by teaching, that if a person is guilty of evil commissions,

missions, he will be punished in the vehicle of some animal, who suffers from the brutality of mankind. But tell me captain, what is the reason that unoffending innocent creatures suffer in this world, if their existence perishes in this state? Is it unavoidable, or disregarded by Providence? You behold the lovely fawn before you; cast the mental eye towards London, and view the many thousand horses suffering inexpressible misery for years, under labour, and the lashes of unfeeling executioners, in car, coach, and draymen. Perfect goodness on no account can let perfect innocence suffer, and how can animals offend who know no law? If heavenly benevolence had not adequate power to prevent its creatures existing in misery, it would not have given them creation. To say that the business of the world cannot be carried on without the suffering of its creatures, is making things worse; and as it is certain, that life to many is not a benefit: what is the rational cause of this evil? The captain replied, to be ingenuous, I cannot answer you to my own satisfaction, and I must be silent: but I confess I could receive great pleasure, to hear this mighty cause accounted for, if it was possible, out of the dry method of cold metaphysics; in a way of delight from a masterly hand, who could mingle the sweetness of entertainment, with the utility of instruction. Such a one,  
answered

answered Theodore, is at hand, and you will behold him in the sage hermit Confuciango, who dwells over yonder rocks in the romantic valley of Hoangti. He has the pleasing art of gently seizing naked truth, who then is not always agreeable to common eyes, to bind her with the easy cords of roses, and decking her with the suitable ornaments of fiction, he sets off her beauty with borrowed decorations.

I embrace your offer with the greatest pleasure, said the captain, but too late to attend the hermit, and safely return, we will entertain ourselves with walking along the margin of the canal, viewing the gardens which run down to its pellucid brink, and the aspiring pagodas; then to-morrow, rising with the sun, in the cool fragrance of the morning, we will accost the philosopher, and in the heat of the day, seated in his refreshing grotto, be willing auditors. Which agreed upon, the next morning they paid a visit to the hermit Confuciango.

#### *The VALE of HOANGTI.*

Nothing could be more delightful than the peep of morning, where, in the calmness of soft serenity, Nature uprose from her flowery couch, shaking from her curly tresses the pearly dew drops, breathing at every step where sweet violets uprose, delicious fragrance. In ascending the towering rocks, that frowning, over-  
shadow



shadow the vale of Hoangti, they found nothing was more capable of exciting wonder, and preparing the mind to admit astonishment from grand ideas. When they climbed the top of a fragment, they beheld overhead massy mountains of rugged stone, threatening every moment to fall and crush them to atoms. Then as they crept trembling through an alley of rocks, where on each side uprose broken and irregular walls, crumbling to dust, all of a sudden they came to a burst of day-light, which discovered precipices unfathomable, that struck the aking eye with horror, which shuddered through the trembling organs. Passing through a dark kind of grotto, in which the guide carried torches, they were charmed with the beautiful incrustations that spangled like diamonds, hanging from a vast rustic cupola, in a thousand charming configurations; while a transparent stream ran gurgling through the tessellated pavement: But when they cleared the grot, and at last attained the summit of the mountain, the contrast from that dark abode was amazing, for the enchanting prospect opened to the eye of admiration, with delight inexpressible.

A flood of lucid day poured from the effulgent sun, and realized objects innumerable, while the capacious soul took in, at the perceptive organ of sight, all the multifarious images of a magnificent city, arranged in wondrous order: a picture of a world on

a point! Where distinctly was delineated lofty cupolated temples, cloud-pavilioned pagodas, rich palaces, turretted with gold blazing to the sun, and beautifully painted pleasure-houses, over-shadowed with fragrant shrubs of flowery elegance; where, led by the easy hand of Nature-imitating Art, crept round their verdant banks smooth glassy rivulets: or erected on over-hanging rocks, gay summer palaces projected deep shades over the bosom of smooth unruffled lakes. So delightful was the morning, and so rich the scene, that where ever they turned their enchanted eyes, struck with pleasing enthusiasm, they seemed as if they were ascending to another world! Then, by cautious steps, declining down the mountain's edge, and round the rocky declivities, they reached the happy valley of Hoangti.

No language can possibly describe the beauty of its lovely, though confined situation. It was an amphitheatric vale, encompassed by monstrous precipices, romantic mountains, irregular hills, and overhanging rocks; here and there intersected by little sweet garden spots, that seemed the plots of Paradise, glowing unnumbered flowers, that scented the ambient air; while some, loaded with the most tempting productions shed, ripened on the velvet turf rich fruit, blushing purple gold. The bright sun glorying in its meridian carr, could only dart its fervours in the middle, which  
even

even was tempered with cooling breezis wif- *breezes*  
pering down the rocks, and the rest was fine  
refreshing shade. The area of the vale was  
oblong, running equally from head to foot in  
the sweet declivities of verdant slopes, meeting  
in the midst at a line which cut across the cen-  
tre, and formed a deep rivulet, with a gent-  
ly winding pace till it rushed down a lofty  
rock tremendous, jumping with outrageous  
clamour from precipice to precipice, that  
hoarsely echoed round the misty rocks, before  
it slid along their broad sides into its bed  
with prodigious impetuosity.

The hermit, who was a man of taste, had,  
from among a variety of natural concavities  
in the rocks and mountains, selected an abode  
worthy himself; which, by the patient hand  
of labourious Industry, with the long assistance  
of unrepining Time, he not only rendered  
neatly commodious, but elegantly magnificent.  
It was in the bosom of a long rock, uprising  
suddenly in the midst, domelike; winged on  
each side with two lesser fragments, which  
were contiguous to the vast undistinguished  
range of mountains. The entrance through a  
sand-walk, carpeted on each side with turfy  
herbage, cropt by bleating lambs and frisking  
kids; was a rude arch curtained door-wise,  
which led into a little room hall-like; on each  
side were the doors of a bed-room, and an eat-  
ing parlour; and the front was a dark grotto-  
room

room. Matting, weaved by the Anchorite's leasure-hand, of beautiful rush, and stools formed partly by Nature, with his assistance, and cotton of his own spinning, composed the principal furniture.

As the two friends went talking towards the hermitage, the unusual sound alarmed the quick ear of Confuciango. Coming to the door, and steadfastly fixing a recollecting eye on Theodore, he remembered seeing him in a prior voyage. The flush of honest surprise bloomed on his cheek, and the amity of friendship sparkled in his eye, which, with his hands, he lifted thankful to heaven. Theodore sprung forward, and caught the venerable Anchoret in his arms, kist his cheek and sacred beard, the mark of eastern liberty; while the tear of sensibility thickened in the eye of the heartfelt Confuciango, and stopt the voice of eloquence fluttering on the labouring lips. At length he conducted the friends into his retreat. Welcome, he cried, thrice welcome O! my kind Theodore, my dear friend! and acceptable as a messenger from the heavenly abodes! Be seated, be free, and if it is in my power to confer it, be happy. He rejoined not, but flew to his little store-house, and returning loaded, with hospitable hands, he spread his table full of rich dried fruit, and varieties of grapes, peaches, nectares, and pine-apples; with wine  
of



of a delightfully aromatic flavour; milk and water from the rock clear as chrystal. Mean while the friends produced him a present of precious workmanship, more valuable than diamonds!---little saws, knives, chisels, hammers and axes, inestimable implements to the recluse! They all reclined on the rush carpet, and sinking into the sweet captivity of social love, they ate the light repast, and quaffed the rich invigorating wine, talking and laughing in all the unbended joy of sincere friendship, secluding the mean suspicions of fear.

After they had sufficiently feasted appetite, and indulged to the curiosity of kind enquiry; they walked out in the fresh air, under the fresco of the circumambient hills, whose shrubby brows projected a pleasing shadow. Then Theodore said to the hermit, I must acquaint you dear Confuciango, that my friend, the captain, is extremely desirous of hearing from your hallowed lips, those sublimely mysterious sentiments, which account for the origin of evil; proving the doctrine of pre-existence and transmigration. In being kind to my intercession believe me, thou wilt not throw thy precious pearls among swine, for he is not of the profane vulgar. He will be equally grateful and attentive as myself, when first, with unutterable joy, at thy heavenly instruction, my greedy ears, where my soul stood collected, drank in thy flowing eloquence. The hermit

mit paused——and then replied. Though the required task will be laborious, and will renew the idea of unutterable grief, yet I will gratify your desire. Now we have finished our walk, and the burning sun darts sultry beams, let us retire into the cool refreshing grot sacred to friendship; and as I am in a cue for utterance, I will there give you an introductory history of myself, and my dear friend prince Zangola; trusting to your honour, secrets of the highest consequence: happy if the useful morals, which may be deduced from the narration, like that rich confection extracted from the honey-comb, the work of laborious bees, which charms and heals, may, while it pleases, be conducive to your making a right choice of the ways of life, which lead to happiness. They bowed grateful.

While the two friends were moved with admiration at the stupendous mountains, and wondering over the tremendous rocks, Confuciangio left them, and went to his hermitage. After staying some time he conducted them through his little hall, into a dark passage; and all of a sudden led them unexpectedly into a magnificent kind of a saloon, formed by the petrific hand of artless Nature, in a taste that mocks the symmetry of science, out of a rock's protuberant bosom. It was circularly irregular, rounded off as it uprose spacious into a hollow cupola, from which depended  
Fancy-

Fancy-formed in a wonderful manner, rustic arches, bulging freezes, and over-jetting cornishes; supported by innumerable pillars, pilasters, and fluted columns, in the ravishing confusion of unbounded variety; all of chrystals, lustrous as the brilliant diamond, congealed from the lapse of lucid water, petrified into millions of forms, and solid incrustations. In the hollows of foliaceous spars, were concealed numbers of little lighted lamps, which the glassy spangles in rays beautifully tinged, reflected in a manner delightfully astonishing. After the first emotions of surprise were over, and they were seated on matty sofas, Confuciango thus began.

*The History of CONFUCIANGO, and ZANGOLA,  
the Prince of China.*

As you, my Theodore, have devoted this day to the lessons of Instruction, with the patience of humility; I shall begin at the fountain-head of things, the introduction of which must be a relation of my own life. The auditors bowed consent, and sat listening with the deepest attention, while the hermit thus proceeded. The birth of fruit is the destruction of the loveliest blossoms. My beautiful mother, in giving me life, lost her own. Ah! had I been her partner in death, how many deaths

deaths I should have escaped! My ambitious father was the Kolao, or favorite minister of Tsoumtchin, the last emperor that was truly Chinese, chief of the Mandarins; my father Oufanguey, was not only prime-minister, but was the most valiant and expert general in the whole Chinese nation. In my innocence, the state of unpolluted infancy, my little figure revealed various signs of promised beauty. My ambitious parent conceived a design of attaching me to the young prince Zangola, in a manner equal to the beneficial connection he held with the emperor; that if he expired before himself, my father, through me, might support his great authority with Zangola; for which purpose, at a proper season, by the cruel commands of deaf-eared Ambition, I was cut off from the hope of manhood, by the barbarous hand of jealous custom, and admitted into the imperial palace at Pekin.

Oufanguey, my father, had the management of the prince's education, who, born of a favourite concubine, was to have been the adopted heir of China; and placed me about his person, in certain hope that I should gain that ascendancy over his heart, which he held over the emperor's; for which cause no pains were spared in my culture, in order to give me all the accomplishments of politeness, and the attainments of science. Thus far thought the  
statef-



statesman, but he would have been very short in his plan, if naturally I had not possessed a delicate sensibility of soul in my tender years, corresponding to that elegant harmony of refined spirit, so conspicuous in the structure of the prince's mind, which was altogether love; that being the master passion which absorbed the rest in its vortex. But it was a flame burning with that unpolled purity, scarcely known but to the most delicate of the fair sex, which seldom could have for its object sensuality; and seemed to bear analogy to that affection, when ardent in the celestial vehicles of the most exalted intelligences; who in all the joy of gratitude are praising their beneficent creator, for some new instance of divine regard.

From the common duty of my office as his slave, and the repeated lessons of my father, I was assiduous to please the prince, and I anticipated his commands by the prevention of forethought. And such was the grateful sweetness of his temper, and the affability of his manners, that what before were the acts of duty, soon became the spontaneous offices of inclination. What flows from the heart, will by the heart be rewarded! Zangola took in good part all the little inventions of variety, which added to divertisement. Approbation in youth, where the minds are similar, soon shoot up to friendship. The prince respected his best slaves, but he only loved me; and

now, instead of an assistant I became the companion of his pleasures, the friend of his bosom; and pouring all his heart to my confidence, I shared the secrets of his honest soul, which ever breathed the pure spirit of friendship: for in spite of all the softness of an eastern education, generous honour was the faithful guide of our untainted hearts. He would frequently cry, without delicate friendship, how solitary are the joys of royalty.

Zangola frequently condescended to come with me, in cool evenings to my father's palace, which was near the royal seraglio, and divert himself for an hour and retire. One evening, just as the refulgent sun was setting in his purple pavilion, skirted with glowing gold; the prince would retire to the palace gardens, and roving blithly, like a bird, he came to a fragrant orange grove. Stopping short, he listened, to the sweet voice of a female, accompanied by soft music; and stealing lightly on, he beheld my lovely sister Philasanga, who reclined in a myrtle bower, intermixt with jessamin. Immediately their eyes encountered, and both starting in attitudes of delightful surprise, seemed to exchange souls through that most affected organ! Thus they stood absorbed in rapturous ecstacy, as if they had been acquainted before in some happy *regions* pier and more exalted *reigns*; and now intellectually renewed the enchanting friendship: but  
unable

unable to support the ravishing bliss, my sister fainted. The prince ran to support her, till her ladies came, and then he was obliged to retire: but he said, Oh! my Philafanga, I love thee more than life, may the passion be mutual!

A love begun in this manner, so reciprocally affecting, and carried on by repeated visits, and fond endearments, it is no wonder that they longed for and sought the marriage union; especially, as there did not intervene any forbidding circumstance. The prince soon acquainted his royal father, with his new-born passion for Philafanga, recounting all the great endowments of her mind, every way worthy a great princess, and humbly solicited the happy union of wedlock. My sister directly informed my overjoyed father of the prince's declaration, who exerted his talents to clear the way for an event so much to his glory, power, and the aggrandizing his family. At length all things, by the peculiar address of the statesman, were compromised, and the enraptured prince married my sister Philafanga.

Four people now were arrived at the most sublime summit of happiness, which seemed built on the basis of a rock so solid, that appeared to stand securely, even out of the reach of fate: till revelling in the delicious joys of prosperity, they forgot the bounteous hand

which bestowed them, and gave up their whole heart to the creature, instead of the creator. Such is the presumption and ingratitude of the human heart! But ah, how unstable is mortal felicity!

The emperor, so that nothing ruffled the serene calmness of his placid temper, contented himself with the comforts, as it were, of private life, and became devoted to the elegant pleasure of his noble palace, and rural paradise; throwing up the reins of government into the hands of selfish Ambition, which for the low gratification of its own private views, gave up the honour of the emperor, and the good of the country. My father strove to seclude his royal master from the cares of state; that is from authority, while his principal drift was turned in moderating the parties of the mandarines, who, envious at his power, were struggling to become sharers. Thus the time, and extensive talents, that should have been employed in nation affairs, were lost in the arts of pacifying the craving appetites of an ambitious and venal nobility, and the fixing his seat on the basis of security. And thus it was that the disorders of the head were communicated over the whole body of the state. ‡ The great and noble tyrannized over the gentry; the gentry oppressed the poor; the poor imitating the rich, and effeminated by the pleasures of inferior luxury, were im-

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*lional*

‡



pious, libidinous, and drunken; while Voluptuousness, with all her train of refined pleasures, varied the banquets of unwearied Delight. Justice was bought, or influenced by connexions. Merit was discountenanced. Sy-cophants and fawning slaves were raised to office. Virtue and Religion were driven far away by the scoff of Contempt, or only regarded in the formality of Hypocrisy; while bold unrefraining Vice, plunging into the arms of every offering Joy, reigned triumphant. ‡

The amiable prince, too fatally pursuing the example of his royal progenitor, consecrated his soul to love and friendship, in a most enchanting paradise of pleasure; which soon, by the concurring labour of ten thousand men, realized the curious plans of a hundred architects: the style of which, by the direction of the prince, was only in the character of sweetness and elegance, so prompted by Love. A transparent river, whose source was derived from never failing mountains, glided meandring through the aromatic garden; whose flowery banks formed a variety of slopes, declivities, rising hillocks, delving valleys, lawns, and parallel flats, carpeted with the most lovely verdure, intermixt with flowers; while at proper distances spicey groves of oranges, citron, lemon, and myrtle, with delicate summer palaces, clumps of flowering shrubs, trees in beautiful blossoms, or loaded  
with

with golden fruit, demanded the charmed eye of Admiration! Above, below, and all around, a perpetual verdure diversified in a thousand different shades, lived elegantly lively, and sweetly predominant; while the most ravishing essences of lovely flowers and blossoms, cloathed in gaudy velvet, and golden tissues, were richly diffusive. Further on, a little island was formed by the branching of the river, which met at the upper end, and flowed down the fertile country.

In the midst of the island, was a romantic palace, in the free taste of China, which tied by no partial rules, admitted all the beauties of architecture; whether magnificently sublime, elegantly light and fanciful, or delicately chaste; yet, bearing such a profound correspondence, as to form one entire whole. A style where all but a great genius is lost; rules and rigid methods being the directors of secondary souls! Various beautiful bridges, led to as many glorious porticos full of gaiety, painted florid, and blazing gold. The enchanting view that presented itself to the windows, and flowery walks of the island-palace, was an amphitheatre gently uprising, crowned with delicious orange groves, tufts of pale lemons, and ruddy ripening grapes, laughing through branches of honey suckle and jessamin; with triumphant arches, beautiful palace-models, temples, saloons, and lofty

lofty pagodas, towering through shady groves, and imbrowned woods of myrtle, whose uplifted pinnacles took in all the wide-stretching and delightful prospect of the city, and the villatic regions.

How oft upon this paradisaical river, which I dwell on with so much delight! how often, with the transported Zangola, and the felicitated Philasanga, have I rode down the silver current, with unutterable satisfaction! The last day of festivity I tasted, was with the prince and my sister on this river. When we came to take water, the sun <sup>was</sup> veiled with ominous clouds, a little fleet of golden barges, in various forms, waited our reception. The barge we went aboard, was shaped like a swan, white with glittering silver; beautiful banners waved all around, and the silken sails swelled to the buxom breeze; while the sweetest flutes, accompanied with harmonious voices, charmed the unbended heart. When we landed, we proceeded to a glorious saloon in the palace of the island, where Elegance and Magnificence vied with each other, to sooth and captivate the soul with the splendour of Luxury. A banquet of prime delicacies waited ready our entrance, and invited appetite. There, while we regaled at the festive board, and partook the joyous reciprocations of friendship; blest as Gods, and void of every dreadful apprehension; over  
our

our heads was gathering a prodigious tempest. The piercing lightening was forming, the tremendous thunder preparing; the billows of adversity were crouding to overwhelm us, and we were deserted by the protecting arm of all gracious heaven: for a messenger dispatched from the emperor, trembling, told us with faltering accents, that the Tartars, breaking through the prodigious wall, were ravaging all China like an army of locusts. We all started back, appalled at the news, while the enchantments of Pleasure, the delusions of Joy, and the phantoms of Happiness, now vanished from before our eyes, and left us surrounded by inexpressible Horrors!

*The Angel of Providence.*

At this time the adamantine temple of Fate; which contains the inevitable volume, and which was built on the basis of eternity, in the celestial metropolis of the heaven of heavens; the mighty temple, thundering at its prodigious gates of burnished gold, was opened; and four glorious Seraphims, at the four magnificent porticoes, which pointed to the four divisions of the universe, blew their silver trumpets, and summoned the four angelic delegates that preside over the terrestrial globe. Accordingly the princely dominations, at the well known summons, immediately repaired heavenward, borne aloft  
in



in magnificent chariots, self-ascending through the parting clouds; wheeling up the sunny path of day, rapid as the starting blaze of lightening, that bolts through the canopy of disturbed night, making another morning. When they reached the marble battlements of heaven, the golden gate on silver hinges turning, sounded harmonious consent, and admitted the noble potentates; who softly drove through crouds of assembled angels, that with golden viols concurring to their sweet celestial voices, sang gracious reception; and strewing their paths of precious stones inwrought mosaic, with never fading flowers, shouted forth the praises of due obedience; commending their care and fidelity to the wretched children of Mortality. Then chanting choral symphonies in honour of the most high, they conducted the angelic visitants to the splendid temple of the volume of Providence.

Directly when they entered the porch, and were admitted to the sacred sanctorum, they prostrated themselves far off, before the unapproachable throne of him, who sits encircled in a blaze of shaded glory; which else would be unsupportable to the most sublime intelligences. After they had rendered a succinct account of terrene transactions, relative to the state of kingdoms and nations; the soft harmonic sounds of approbation as of various instruments, burst from the bright throne, and they bowed their humiliated heads, and laid

down their starry crowns before the golden footstool, saying, to obey thee, Oh God, is our delight; but thy approval is our glory!

Then uprising at the awful sound of full, but gentle thunder, they cast their eyes on the volume of Fate, and lo! an astonishing Being ascended the sapphire steps of the divine oratory; and by the supereminence of his celestial form, he was known to be the exalted angel of Providence. His royal visage beamed ineffable loveliness, from the illustrious perfection of his beauty; the graceful indicature of unspotted goodness! His radiant eyes, more brilliant than the sun itself, had the most searching quality to penetrate through all Nature, and owned no obstacle! His broad expanding wings, gay with the most elegant plumage, and bright with gold and glittering silver, shaded with the blush of crimson; mantled aloft as if for beauty, but carried the idea of unutterable rapidity! And as his beautiful feet were swift to overtake, his strong left arm appeared as the vast unconquerable shield of protection; while his ready invulnerable right, bore in its nervous potency, the tremendous terror of irresistable desolation, and unremediable destruction. On his majestic head, over his becoming ringlets that waved in curls down his shoulders, he wore a starry diadem, where the rays of Wisdom, Justice, and Mercy, shone refulgent!

Then

Then he who alone had power, opened the prodigious book, and read the fate of nations in a voice of that peculiar prolificacy, that imprinted into the very nature of the angelic auditors, the vast unremittable decrees of Fate. Turning particularly to the bright Asiatic vicergerent, divinely smiling with all the grace of love and approbation; he solemnly delivered an interesting charge relating to earth's greatest kingdom, heavenly-favoured China; and dwelt much on the impetuous Tartars, till the tears of soft pity stole down the rosy cheek of Commiseration, such as angels shed! Prostrating low in sign of humiliation, and deep obedience, the four seraphims retired, walking backwards from the majesty of the blazing throne; and mounting their fiery chariots, flew immediately down the skies to their allotted stations, that they might manifest the sincerity of love and testify allegiance, by paying the quickest obsequiousness, to supernal decrees: there calling directly a convocation of the guardian powers, in a wide spreading pavilion of clouds, they delivered the imperial mandates of the magnificent king of kings, which contained the fate of China. Thus unseen by mortals, they were preparing for the Chinese Revolution.

After the prince and my sister had recovered from the astonishment, into which we were thrown by the messenger's declaring the irruption of the Tartars, in the midst of our festivity; the kind Zangola perceiving the tender anxiety of bridal fondness in Philasanga,

foothed her panting heart with the prevailing eloquence of majesty, that mingled with love awful fortitude, and public regard, submitting nobly to the dispensations of Providence; and all her fears wore the serene aspect of pacification, leaving her loved lord with due submission to the dangers of war, and the ardours of heroism. Zangola retired, pressing her hand, proclaiming Love's soft promise from his rosy lips, of a quick return; to take at least a parting farewell. She smiled dutious at the kind professions, while a lucid tear stole softly down her liliated cheek, beautiful in grief. So when the chearful face of April is ruffled by tempests, and gathering clouds deform its charms, the bright sun will break serenely smiling through the dark obscure; yet clear drops of falling rain shall mingle with its rays, and glitter on the bloom of drooping flowers, which gain new graces in depression.

When Zangola arrived at the imperial council, he heard that the Tartars had forced their way beyond the great wall, which parts China from Tartary, that the ferocious enemy conquered all obstacles; beat all the forces that dared encounter their prowess; took several of the capital cities in spite of their strongest fortresses, and was marching victorious to the metropolis. The emperor frowned upon my father, as the cause of this misfortune. All thought they saw his fate. But the king of China knew too well his great abilities,



abilities, to doom his sagacious prime minister, who had a genius swift as lightening in the hour of demand. The king said, as by your remissness and security; we have been improvident, be every thing recompensed by your celerity and judgement. The minister replied, O king I go---my horse is ready---A chosen band will follow me: and bowing he retired. The prince, full of heroism, said, and I, Oh my father, will lead this band. The king consented. The council broke up.

My father had selected a little army from the vast one about the metropolis, on which he could confide; and from his own treasure distributed a magnificent donation among their wives and families, while he himself rode incessantly towards the enemy.

The prince came to take leave of his lovely bride. He flattered himself with the hope of fortitude, and she promised all due resignation. But what are the resolves of youthful love! He came softly in her pavilion, and beheld her in tears, reclining on a velvet sofa, beautiful in all the becoming carelessness of silken negligence. He fondly gazed, while all his resolves melted away; and she turning her glittering eye, saw him, sprung up and flew with rapture to his willing arms: thus folding one another in speechless ecstasy. All the night was employed in professions of everlasting love, in the tenderness of bewailing sensibility, and the gentle embracings of love; interesting

teresting all the powers above for protection; till a slave came to declare it was break of day, and the army was marching. Clasped to the bosom of the charmer of his youthful soul, the prince was deaf to every call but that of love. Eunuch after eunuch was dispatched to require his presence, but the circling arms of his dear bride, were beloved chains too endearing for him to break; and her blandishments too captivating for his glory. At length, when I found it necessary for his honour, I was forced to tear him away from the beloved of his soul, amidst their soft reproaches; and I felt a pang as great as her's, when she fell fainting in the arm of her ladies at his needful departure. When she returned to sensation, she would cry, where, O ye barbarous, have you hurried my prince?---- Shall I, ye Gods, shall I ever behold his lovely face again? O protect him---bring him back safe, and let me once more fold in my arms my lovely hero!

The prince Zangola suffered himself to be placed on his horse; and I resolving to share his fate, kept close by his side, till we overtook the army, which soon, by forced marches, came up to my father, who was to learn us the art of generalship. That great genius collecting all his powers towards the art of war, first under disguise, got by degrees in the midst of the enemy. He made himself master of their force and manners. He next, as  
much

much as possible, studied the genius and nature of the general, and found him great and politic, but impetuous. He then learned every inch of ground in the country to the metropolis, and then he laid down a plan of operation, adapting that and his army to one another. He found he could not think ever of venturing a pitched battle, only having 50,000 effeminated Chinese, and the Tartars 200,000 veterans; therefore he began by harrassing the flank and rear of the enemy, by which he perfected his troops to his designs.

He encamped before a large river, rapid and scarcely fordable, which they were obliged to pass; he ordered the whole army to leave all their valuable effects exposed to view in the camp, and draw up in battalia to oppose the navigating foe. When they began to pass the swift stream, taking every advantage, he cut off, before they could land and form, ten thousand, and drowned as many. At the first furious onset of the Tartars, his army as before directed, fled precipitately; the enemy not chusing to follow, but took possession of the camp in great disorder, falling to plunder. In the midst of which his collected bands marched down, and made a dreadful carnage, till the main body of the Tartars, commanded by Tsoute himself, the Tartarian king, came, and then they retreated back victorious.

Another time taking advantage of their festivity on the birth day of their king Tsoute,  
he

he forced the camp at midnight; and but for want of equal numbers he would have intirely disperfed the invaders, who were faved by Onga, the Tartarian general of horfe, that covered the retreat while their camp was on fire.

Tfoute was one of the little kings of eastern Tartary, not far off the immense wall of fortifications, built one thousand eight hundred years fince, by the emperor Chihohamti, called Van-Li-Cham-Chim, more than a thousand miles long, to exclude the roving Tartars. King Tfoute, whether by the avaricioufnefs of the merchants, or the pride of the foldiery, or more haughty mandarines, had received feveral capital affronts; and had, by his ambaffadors, fent for redrefs to the emperor Tfoumtchin, at the court of Pekin; but from the negligence of proud office, the fupinenefs of majefty, or the contempt thrown on a fupposed want of confequence, the Chinefe court, ever dilatory through the winding forms of custom, withheld the demanded fatisfaction; and the ambaffadors were difmiff with the difgrace of ineffectual promifes. When they reached the Tartarian prince in his pavilion, and declared to his eager demands the affrontful difappointment; hurried by the fierce dictates of paffion, and the wild fallies of anger, he fware by his Gods, and the never dying Lama, that he would fly with his whole army to the very throne of Pekin, redrefs himfelf, and deluge all China with the blood of its natives;



natives; or perish in an attempt whose very ill success would be glorious. And who knows, addressing himself to his brother-kings, who were on a visit of hunting: who knows, he said, with a kind of prophetic ardency, but what I am delegated by the powers divine, to wrest the sceptre of China from the sluggish hand of Tsoumtchin, to chase him from his throne, and seat myself in that lofty situation so highly adorable! Come then ye warlike princes, and faithful allies; be ye the companions of my enterprize, and the sharers of my fortune. Behold, O valiant kings, the finest country on the map of earth, and the most magnificent cities in the whole world. Glorious hives indeed! but swarming with drones, luxurious, effeminate, and wicked; too weak and altogether too unfit to defend themselves, and protect the honeyed repast gathered before by more industrious bees! Behold the rich plunder lays before us, let us reach, let us take, let us enjoy! Bring then your numerous horse, meet me at the proud work of vanity, the barrier wall, and I will procure your invincible squadrons an easy passage, leading you on to glorious victory, and the enjoyments of magnificence.

This animated speech made a deep impression on the hearts of the plundering tribes, who, hereditary foes to the Chinese, burning with natural enmity, looked with greedy eyes on the delightful fertility of the country;

saw with envy their opulence, and internally contemned their effeminacy. They all agreed to move their wondring camp, directly towards the eastern battlements of the great wall, to follow the valiant enterprising Tsoute as their chief; and to subject themselves to his commands.

Those Tartar camps which were in motion, immediately joined the daring invader, who by the treachery of some Chinese peasants, found out a private passage through the mountains; and suddenly falling upon the ungarded troops around the wall, soon won several posterns, and opened a broad entrance, which let in the furious Tartars, who spread themselves around our fertile fields, and where ever they came brought desolation. So when driven by a violent tempest, the ocean breaks down its antient boundary, it rushes dreadfully through the horrid chasm; and rolling tremendous with thunder in its van, overwhelms not only the peasant's family, and the trembling flocks, but buries, in undistinguished ruin, whole cities, and all their astonished inhabitants, lordly palaces, and magnificent temples!

About this time the rest of the Tartars, consisting of their prime horse, augmented the army of Tsoute; who commanding the whole cavalry, gave the infantry to his brother Amavan's direction. My valiant father, Ousanguy, likewise increased his army; and by a variety of feint attacks; and using all the profound

profound subtilty of generalship; he led the deluded Tartars in their way to Pekin, the northern capital, to the most hazardous strait of the mountains, which running across the province, afforded no other passage to the metropolis, but round a tiresome extent of difficult country.

The impetuous Tartar, who now began to dread the cool stratagems of an old general he at first despised, and abating the ardours of ferocity, listened to Reflection's gentle voice. He in his turn became wary, and got the best plan of the country possible, still bending his course towards Pekin. The Chinese general, Oufanguey, when his army was recruited, soon perfected a plan which was his dernier resort. For he could by no means obtain an army sufficient to face the invader, and defy him in a pitched battle: as new convulsions more dreadful, were shaking the very vitals of the kingdom, and threatened an utter dissolution of the body-politic; which required the whole forces of the king. Upon which account prince Zangola was called back again from the army to court; and I likewise attended his highness to witness his sensibility, after I had been a witness to the many proofs of valour in those many and courageous actions with which he was nobly signalized.

My father Oufanguey, now perfectly prepared to put his great plan into execution,

appeared with his battalions in array, on a large commodious plain, challenging the exulting Tartar to battle, and to decide the fate of kingdoms by that day's conflict. Tsoute, stimulated by the hope of conquest, though often cooled by the prudence of sagacity, could not refrain from gorging the bait, as he saw the field of battle so advantageous for the action of the cavalry, in which he mostly confided. The choice of ground suited the disposition of his army to perfection, as on the right and left he was defended by a rapid river, and a wide forest: though these advantages made him mistrust the insidious Chinese; yet the fire of his constitution carried it against caution, and he gladly accepted the challenge.

Oufanguay imagined that the Tartar would not tempt the narrow pass of the mountains, unless he could defeat his army: the Tartar, indeed, thought that the wary general would live in those rocks vigilant of his dangerous passage; like the insidious leopard, who beholding the fleet wild horses of the forest, makes himself a deep cave in the mountains, and watching their approach with steady eyes, till they trot between the high hills, he rushes impetuous on his shuddering prey, seizes their throats, and tears them down to the earth: therefore the Chinese offered battle.

The Tartarian king, desirous of securing the mountains, sent for that purpose, in the rear



rear of Oufanguay, ten thousand horsemen, with as many foot soldiers behind. An equal party, which the Chinese left for their reception, supposing such a motion, rushed on them unprepared, and totally vanquished the detachment with little loss: then dividing, they ascended the rocks, which parting into a fearful opening, left a precarious passage: there they lay perdu.

The calm morn peeped over the hills ominous, with streaks of angry red, portending blood, dispelling the shades of night, and awakening all Nature; while the imperial sun arose above the reach of Care, in the serene composure of morning majesty; the gentle winds breathed soft on the dimply brook, and the plaintive notes of harmonious birds, soothing to the anxious peasant's bosom, murmured gently through the silent grove, lightly touching the nice ear of thoughtful Solitude. It was then that affrighted Nature, starting, heard the rough trumpets clangor, shrill echoing to the distant rocks, calling to arms. With loud shouts the Tartars rushed to the onset, and filled with rude cries the trembling air; and the clash of horrent arms, which gleamed terribly brilliant to the slow rising sun, flashing back disdainful another day; while the destructions of the cannon out-acted the big thunder-cloud in a tempest: its cloud more sulphurous, its thunders more dis-

discordant, its lightening more horrid, and its desolation more extensive and inevitable!

The Chinese sustained the first fury of the onset, with uncommon prowess; but they gave way, continually assailed by unequal numbers pouring down, like the burning river of melted mettle, running impetuous along the side of a mountainous volcano; and retreated in good order. The light armed flew up the appointed hills at the pass, to their receiving companions. The rest formed again, Oufanguy in their centre. The Tartar paused, fearful of stratagem; then the Chinese gave a violent push, and cut an easy passage to the forest: while the Tartars, taking clear possession of the field of battle, supposed the Chinese quite dispersed in their defeat; and joyfully they marched the next day to penetrate the narrow straits, and attack Pekin.

The too elated Tartar, confident in his strength, marched the vanguard of his troops, and immured them between the dark horrors of overhanging precipices, himself bringing up the rear, cautious of the dangerous Oufanguy; who was like the sharp-eyed eagle, that from his airy height shoots down unexpected on the gamboling kid, and swoops him from his trembling companions. When at a nearer approach, the Tartar beheld the danger of the pass if an enemy was at hand, he resolved to detain half his troops, till the other half was safe through the perilous passage.

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That resolve saved his army, for when the first division was well entered, the Chinese jumping from their lurking places discovered themselves. As when the benighted traveller sheltering himself in a cave, but starting back astonished at the lion's thundering voice, hears him rattling through the pebley flints, his burning eyes like a fiery furnance, lighting the dusky shade, and shewing him more plainly hastening on to his destruction; so utterly confounded, the shuddering Tartars heard and beheld the shouting Chinese; who assailing them on every side, crushed them to atoms with the prodigious shoulders of ancient rocks, torn half loosened by the unsparing hand of Time, from the backs of tottering precipices; and over hanging mountains; more dreadful in their ruination, by their cumbersome loads of native forests, shattering tremendous as an earthquake; when its fury, shaking the deep foundations of a mighty city, throws down on the distracted citizens devoted heads, not only their houses, but their very fortresses of defence, their towers, palaces, and temples, with inexpressible desolation!

Full of vexation, the bold assiduous Tartar found himself circumvented, by the superior talents of the indefatigable genius Ousanguay, and half his army in the most imminent danger. He immediately sounded a retreat, and sent parties up the rocks, to encounter the Chinese, in order to divert their destructive purposes:

purposes: but forty thousand destroyed in the fatal avenues, was a disgraceful publication of the want of capacity or vigilance, in a general entrusted by fate with the lives of so many men; while it afforded matter of triumph to the conqueror, and was a standing monument of his great abilities. Such is the precarious state of vast bodies of men, who appearing unconquerable, yet fall in the dust by the merest accident, the whim, folly, or vice of the commander; like an innumerable army of locusts, which darken the very day, and destroy the whole face of Nature; but by the puff of rising winds, are driven into the sea, and feel in a moment that ruination themselves, which on others they had inflicted with such horrible devastations.

Alas! if by a rational investigation of the purposes of things, we ask, what end can all this hurly-burly, these enormous depopulations, and over-turning of great kingdoms, and mighty nations, by the ambition, or injustice, of one bad man; what end can they answer in the plan of Providence? This question may be smiled upon by exalted Beings of a superior nature, in the same manner as if a man was to hear a piz mire enquire, struck with his consequence in the rank of beings, with the grandeur and popularity of his republic, as well as their industry, why his race was so liable to so many fatalities?

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The Tartarian king Tsoute, now humbled by his losses, grew wary, trusting less to fortune and thoughtless impetuosity, duly respecting the talents of his opponent; and he took a circuit round the mountains towards Pekin. But the great Ousanguy, too weak indeed to stop his march, seized every opportunity to retard him, and harass his troops, in hope the royal army, joining his forces, might the more easily cut him off, or send him into Tartary a discomfited fugitive.

*The DEMON of REBELLION.*

*A Pictorial Sketch.*

While thus in the northern provinces War hovered round, and waved aloft its bloody banner, carrying on his approaches in all the art of military regularity; more dreadfully fierce REBELLION in the south broke out, assuming all its tenfold terrors to his own super-added malignity and native vileness. High mounting in his rattling chariot, blazing in arms, and denouncing vengeance from his black frowning brow, he rushed tremendous out of his unexpected cavern.

The guardian powers, who defend mortals from the malignity of aerial beings, and had long secured the tripple-walled den of Rebellion, where he imbibed his infestive poisons, and exercised his impotent rage confined; now retired so directed. Soon as the

arch foe of man beheld their supposed remission, he rejoiced at the offered opportunity of destruction; and with his ferocious accomplices, stealing, in the dead of night, came to the huge den; whose avenue was covered with poisonous herbs, that sheltered enormous serpents, and cruel vipers. When the astonished moon beheld their thief-like purpose, she started back, as it were behind a cloud; and drew over the face of trembling night a veil of darkness. Then the fiends, with prodigious force, snapped asunder the massy bars, wrenched off the ponderous locks, and tore open the tenfold barrier of the horrific cavern; the unwilling gate, struggling back against superior force, shrieked dismal on its rusty hinges; while the explosion of loud thunder rattled through the resounding cavern. When bold Rebellion, and all his rabble, were disgorged from the cave's wide yawning mouth, the Satanic powers closed upon them the vast brazen gate, excluding from return; and as they rushed onwards, the black prince of demons ejected a portion of his own peculiar maliciousness, among the whole lawless crew of Insurrection.

Ambition pointing to crowns, to sceptres, and to palaces, led the way of proud Rebellion. Fire-eyed Destruction flew on his right, drawing forth a flaming sword, parched with a thirst which nothing but blood could quench, and whose unsparing eye darted beams of red

red malignity on his enemies. On his left, with pliable gesture, and easy aspect, whose soft honeyed mouth of oily eloquence smiled well instructed affability, marched plausible Pretence, with little playful sons of painted Liberty, conspicuous in his becoming vestment. Next appeared soft specious Promise, milky fair, serenely courteous, and patiently mild. Close to the side of fierce-viewed Rebellion, and leaning on his breast, was seen his narrow-hearted consort mean-eyed Selfishness, outwardly adorned in the neat but plain robes of Public-good; her cheeks bloomed the fictitious ardour of Goodwill, while her mouth wore the borrowed smile of sweet Benevolence, as she took upon her all the mimic air, and easy gesture, of open grand Disinterestedness. But all beneath this waste of fiction, was hid vile Tyranny, dark as night, whose aspect was more deeply black than the negro's front, bending over a bunch of unspotted lilies. Her heart was the foul seat of Lust, and her bosom the carnal temple of beastly Voluptuousness; while the spirit of her understanding was prone to study her enjoyments at the sufferings of a million. Behind followed whole armies of heart-marbleizing Horrors, double-fronted Falsehoods, terrific Fears, undermining Cunning, sly-creeping Deception, opprobrious Calumny and Detraction, base-hearted Ingratitude, obstinate Party, desperate Opposition,

position, humble-seeming Hypocrisy Religion masked, sly-paced Fraud, giant-handed Force, and iron-hearted Cruelty; while the unspairing hand of deaf-eared merciless Policy brought up the rear, mounted on a flying horse double winged, as generalissimo of the whole direful cavalcade.

These desperate beings breathing their malignant spirit, and incorporating as it were with his nature, inspired the impiously aspiring Ligh, a disgusted Mandarin, to become a traitor to his king and country; a rebel to his sovereign lord. Associating with a growing party, equally bad as himself, the refuse of China, the vile Mandarin lit up the unextinguished flames of a dreadful rebellion, which subverted the ancient kingdom of China; deposed its rightful lord and family, and was the means of raising up an artful stranger in a throne, to which he had no manner of title, either by relationship, or by conquest: atchieved only by the soft artifice of superior address, molding and working up a deluded people, fascinated and utterly enervated by Vice; being indeed rightly punished for the mean cowardice of their effeminacy, and the villainy of their betraying a generous sovereign.

Now grown bare-faced in his rebellion, the audacious Mandarin Ligh, strengthened by numbers that fought for plunder, set fire to capitals, over-run whole provinces, and ravaged



vaged great kingdoms like whirlwinds, massacring multitudes of miserable inhabitants, till loaded with immense riches and plunder, he came towards the imperial residence of Peking. Nothing can express the consternation in which he threw the base inhabitants. By the force of his bribes, and the art of his cunning, he gained admittance within the very walls of the city, though garrisoned with a numerous army. What was the dreadful condition of my dear friend Zangola, and his royal father? If the emperor Tsoumtchin felt the extremes of misery, on account of distress at this horrid news, Zangola, my dear prince, only suffered for his lovely bride. If this unnatural Revolution, said he, would but peaceably secure me in the soft arms of my dearest Philasanga, I would forgive my fate; where, seated in some delightful valley, with a small cottage, reared in the slope of some venerable hill, crowned with wild rurality, I might bid adieu to royalty! There, beside a clear rivulet to keep sheep; to drive the fleecy flock to verdant pasture, while my lovely shepherdess, waiting my return, shall hail me at the cottage door, chiding me with intermingled kisses at my long delay, and presently smiling forgiveness, as she prest my willing hand, conducting me to the seat of sweet repose; O! what joy would this prove in the solitary shade of retirement, with my love, my Philasanga; far from the walks of proud

proud Ambition, secluded far from the imperial palace of kings, the jewel-blazing throne, and the envied sceptre of command, before which mean slaves fall down in earth-kissing adoration! Didst thou but exchange me this, thou dire Rebellion, I would freely part from all the cumberous pageantry of my promised crown, and would even thank you for the happy permutation!

When the ferocious sons of cruel Rebellion had, not by their valour, but more by the treachery of faithless officers, got possession of the city walls, the carnage that followed is too, too disgraceful for the mercy of language to express; and full of ideas too horrible for human ears! for they were transacted by creatures so vilely debased, that they were utterly inhuman. They tortured unoffending innocence, to answer no end but to indulge cruelty! They made war worse than mere barbarians, and the most vile of the brute creation! Lions and panthers, and spotted leopards, carry a dignity in their destruction far above them! Nay the very wolves that howl hunger-bit in the forest, uniting under the calls of famine, are, than they, more eligible; when sculking down the rock at the dusk of evening, they rush terrific, on the defenceless villagers, and glut their famished jaws with human gore: for they retire when their craving appetite is satisfied!

*The Revolution of China. The Death of the  
Emperor and Princess Royal.*

My princely friend was animating the cowardly garrison of Peking, to defend the emperor to the last extremity; when he heard the traitor Ligh, and his infernal crew, with banners flying, were entering the great gate. Finding endeavours vain, as the city was betrayed, to stop their progress, he retired to the emperor in the fortified palace; where the good unfortunate prince, deserted by his friends, if eastern kings can have among his slaves the friend of sincerity; and left by his great Mandarines, with only a few guards and cowardly eunuchs, was confined as it were, in all the terrors of doubtful suspense. His very fortitude forsook him, while in vain he called upon his Gods for assistance; and the generous ear of Providence was closed to his melancholy complaints. The state of his mind was a profound abyss of horror. The most tormenting passions seized, like cruel fiends, his noble heart, and rent his august bosom! When Zangola flew towards him, he was walking, prodigiously agitated, in the great saloon. The prince entered bowing low, yet his aspect betrayed the tenfold disorder of his soul; the king started, and then stood fixed in speechless astonishment. Then Zangola cried in the bitterness of grief, fly, fly my  
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adored lord and father, fly, and secure thy  
 sacred person, the rebel enters Peking. Then  
 looking up the king cried, with eyes wild  
 with horror: what! all is lost!---the emperor  
 is betrayed!--my kingdom and my people  
 are devoted to destruction! O ye immortal  
 Gods, who preside over the affairs of human  
 creatures, where is your justice? where your  
 mercy? where your providence? that such  
 terrible barbarians perpetrate such unheard of  
 cruelties, inflict such unexpressible miseries on  
 a wretched people, who never gave them of-  
 fence; and carry such dissolution in a mighty  
 kingdom; utterly overturning and subverting  
 the most antient nation of the world! why  
 do you suffer such a villain, the very out-cast  
 of mankind, to be over me, his rightful so-  
 vereign, a triumphant conqueror! Here over-  
 whelmed with sorrow, and his grief too big  
 for utterance, the emperor paused---while the  
 big tear tumbled down his venerable cheek,  
 and he stood silent with unutterable misery  
 of soul. The prince kneeling at his feet,  
 begged him to moderate his terrors. But  
 starting, he cried, ye righteous Gods! this in-  
 fernal Ligh, this rebellious traitor to his king  
 and country, may be the instrument of your  
 vengeance, on a king and people, devoted to  
 all the miseries of destruction! To which,  
 softening his voice, he cried sighing, I religi-  
 ously submit! and he drew forth a dagger.  
 Then the prince uprose, and said, O my fa-  
 ther,



ther, think of thy daughter! At that he stopt his cruel hand; he started; he covered his overflowing eyes; he trembled to the very basis of his frame. After some silent moments of consideration, he turned his mournful visage to the prince, and his majestic aspect was disfigured with the wildness of disordered frenzy, while he said, go my duteous Zangola; and embracing him fervently in his paternal arm, he cried, while he bedewed his cheeks with tears of love: go, and receiving my blessing in thy father's last embrace, preserve thy bride, while I save my daughter: and he went towards the apartments of the ladies, the prince offering to accompany him; but he commanded him to retire, who bowing with filial respect, as gushing tears flowed from his gentle eyes, obeyed and sought his love.

Then the king perceiving the captain of his guard, and about 600 chosen troops, he heroically offered to fight at their head, and cut his way through the rebels; but their cowardly hearts failing within them, they refused to follow. Thus he gave up all for lost, supposing Ligh, by his emissaries, had successfully practised on their loyalty.

Giving over all for lost, the emperor Tsoumtchin reached the inner apartments of the princess royal; frantic with purposes dire and horrible. Her highness was reclined on a purple velvet throne of elegant repose, whose

couch was rosy satin; and its lofty canopy supported by ivory trees, bloomed fruit of vegetable gold. On her fair hand she supported her lovely cheek, over which the pearly tear of sorrow fell, like dew drops on a morning lily! around her stood her train of ladies, weeping for themselves, as well as at the fate of the princess. Abrupt the king entered frantic: the princess upraised her beautiful form; and the king starting back trembled, while all the father took possession of his soul, and softened him into the tenderness of paternal affection.

*The Fall of GRANDEUR:*

*A dramatic Catastrophe.*

Alas! said the princess, why looks my royal father thus distracted? pray your majesty be seated. She took his hand, and perceiving an unusual tremor, asked what fresh cause---- The king answered abruptly, O my daughter, we must part never to meet again; my kingdom is wrested from me! The rebel Ligh is in Pekin-----At that dreadful news the princess swooned away; and when her ladies recovered her to life, she cried; but O! my father, is he not in chains? do they not drag him to prison? is not the executioner preparing to make him a public spectacle to the city? Oh! no, he said, my adored child, the villain is victorious; the Gods take part with

with Rebellion, and leave the majesty of kings, their chosen representative, to destruction---- and I must die!

The princess rejoined----O do not, do not, my royal sire, desert me! Canst thou leave me thus unguarded to misery? what will become of wretched me, when thou art gone? where shall I fly? is there none to defend their kind sovereign? where are they all fled? can thy army be thus so easily repulsed?

Alas, said the king, my army is commanded by traitors, now the faithful Ousanguy is expelling the fierce Tartars: my great Kolaos and Mandarins have betrayed me to the arch-rebel; and the very servants who daily ate my bread have deserted their kindest benefactor! Where then can I fly but to the open arms of death? Oh! lamented the princess, penetrated with the most lively grief, if thou art gone, what will become of thy daughter? where can a helpless princess fly, if a king can find no refuge in a cruel world? Worked up by this sentiment, and resolving within himself not to leave the charming mourner to the mercy of villains, ravishers, and plunderers, he was about to finish his fatal resolve; but turning his eye, to take a favourite view of the living beauty of his darling child, he lost his purpose in parental affection; by the sight of such innocence, who beseeched him to look kindly on her, and not forsake her to uttermost distress.----

Then agitated with the most passionate and pathetic sorrow, wringing her ivory hands, she said in a raised tone of voice: Oh! my royal father, let us fly together; Providence will not forsake us, will yet be our guide! For if thou leavest me, will not that most detested traitor rebel, when he seizes thy throne, will he not seize thy daughter? make her a slave, drag her to his loathed infernal bed, ravish from the innocence of her youth her spotless virginity? and after satiating his monstrous lust, sacrificing to Revenge, and the more to degrade the most antient royal family, and make it more extinct; will he not, in the wantonness of cruelty, hew me to pieces, and expose my mangled limbs to delight his fellow traitors? No, said the king, worked up by these horrid images of destruction, to the highest pitch of madness, while his reverend eyes streamed with scalding tears----No, the traitor shall not dishonour thee, O my child, and the royal family----And hearing a shout reverberating round the palace----This arm, he cried, all frantic and looking wild horror, this arm shall save the princess royal from pollution----And catching a dagger from his imperial robe, he plunged it deep in her spotless heart, through her marbly bosom! Fixing a dying look of forgiveness on her distracted parent, she fell gently in the arms of her wailing attendants, like a fair lily bending  
ing



ing over a bed of violets; and the angel of death soon released her fluttering spirit.

In the interim the poor unfortunate emperor Tsoumtchin, now all was utterly lost, bereft of every hope, flew into the palace garden; and hearing the loud shouts of the rebels, as if they were forcing the gates; and fearing to be taken alive, treated with direful indignity, and be dragged at the chariot wheels of an inhuman conqueror----he resolved to die. But still amidst the tumults of his own unequaled miseries and misfortunes, he did not forget his people. His love for them manifested itself in his last moments most benevolently; and doing all in his power to save them from the fury of the victor, he who scorned to entreat for himself and family, condescended to become a suitor even to his hated foe, the rebellious traitor Ligh; and thus on his satin robe he wrote for his distressed subjects; at once manifesting a patriotic king, by a disregard to himself, and a paternal love to his people! *My officers have basely forsaken me; exercise all thy rage on my body, but spare my people.* And immediately he put a period to his royal life, by strangling himself!

Soon after this melancholy catastrophe of the royal family, the infamous mandarine Ligh, with his rebellious army, broke through the walls of the imperial palace; for there was no noble opposition. Cowardice had taken possession of the native Chinese, and  
heaven

heaven suffered them to be over-ruled by the folly of an unaccountable infatuation; made ripe for divine indignation by their iniquities. All the internal apartments, sacred to the privacy of feminine modesty, were given up to the violation of the prophane vulgar; who forcibly intent on pillage, ran from saloon to saloon, and plundered every grand apartment till they were loaded with royal spoil. Creatures thus abandoned to the corruptions of a vitiated nature; and following delighted, free from the curb of restraint, the powerful incentives of a fatal inclination, became outrageous in wickedness, following with greedy appetite the pursuits of barbarity! That such degraded beings should forcibly ravish the spotless virgin, defile the intreating matron, and pollute the virtuous wife; and after satiating their brutal passions, they should plunge the keen daggers in their beauteous bosoms is no wonder: so wonderfully diabolic is human nature when left to its own blind unchecked impulses! no more than it is strange, they should dart the long javelin at the lamb-like infant, sucking at its fond mother's breast, and bear it exulting in cruelty on the sharp point aloft in air triumphant; while feeble old age, creeping at their feet for mercy, share a luckier fate, by having their heads at one clean blow severed by the hands of dexterity, that destruction should be brought to perfection! Yes, the wonder ceases,

ceases, because it is common to all people that are victorious! so vitiated is man without laws!

When prince Zangola left the distracted emperor, he flew on the wings of love to succour and comfort his dear Philafanga, whom he found terrified by painful apprehension in the pleasure palace, formerly devoted to happiness, but now the seat of wretchedness. At his entrance she sprung to his willing embrace, in all the speechless eloquence of love, which is diminished by expression! Then seating herself on his knee, their arms fondly entwined together; as the woodbine and fragrant jessamine cling round their support, she cried, oh my loved lord, my prayers have been offered to the righteous Gods, to spare at least my dear prince amidst this desolation; but if it is the will of the great dispenser of mundane affairs, I beg that I may die in these dear, these faithful and beloved arms; and if that is my fate, O comfort, gracious Providence, my kind good lord! Or rather, she cried, lifting up her tearful eyes, O happy thought! rather suffer me not to animate a terrene form, but a celestial vehicle, graced with immortal elegance; that flying down on earth, I may prove a guardian power to my dear prince, protect him all day from evil, and at night, while he sleeps on his downy couch, defend him from harm, or smooth the ruffled plume of Care; sometimes mildly

mildly to appear before his rural walks, to warn him of danger, and infuse the spirit of happiness!

To which he answered, Oh, my loved, my adored princess, rather let us talk of living; of flying from a perfidious race of vile creatures, to some charming solitude, free from a cruel world; and feast on the sincere enjoyments of delicate and reciprocal love, and social friendship.

No sooner had he spoke, but in rushed the conspicuous rebel Ligh, surrounded by his guard! Thanks mighty Fo, he loudly roared (while Philasanga hid her face in her lord's bosom) I have found my grand enemy, he is a victim worthy myself; and he threw at the prince a painted arrow with all his vengeance, which missing its destined object, flew into the fair Philasanga's side, and drank deeply at the fountain of life, as she fell at his feet. At that the royal Chinese sprung up all furious, and drawing his poniard, rushed towards the arch-traitor; but prevented by his guards was taken prisoner; and as he fainted, overcome with excessive grief, he was hurried to confinement: at my earnest entreaty, offering myself for that purpose, I was suffered to share in the same prison his rankling sorrow.

Between these wonderful transactions, my father Oufanguy, the great Chinese general, after repeated couriers had informed him the dangerous situation of the kingdom from its commo-



commotions; and finding he had not sufficient power to conquer the invader, he made speedy peace with him, in the name of his royal master. By a fatal policy he agreed to join forces, in order the more certainly to extirpate rebellion. Accordingly they marched their troops towards the imperial court, that they might succour the emperor; but before they could effect their purpose, the traitor Ligh had gained possession of the city, which he gave to the ravage of his gang of murderers.

News speedily arrived, that the Chinese and Tartar armies were marching in concurrence to give the rebel battle; the traitor's heart melted within him for very fear, as he was an absolute coward, untinged with the least magnanimity; and such as the commander, such are the followers! The rebels encumbered themselves with plunder; they set fire to the city; and after glutting their voracious rage with acts of cruelty, beholding the metropolis in ashes, and perfecting all the wickedness in the power of man, they retreated in wild disorder; while Ligh, and a party loaded with the richest pillage, fled to the mountains, and was never heard of more; after he had inrolled his name in the list of infamy, and vilely consecrated his remembrance to the bitterest execrations of latest posterity.

Then it was the superior address of the artful Tartar Tsoute displayed itself, by tak-

ing advantage of the confusion and pusillanimity of the effeminate Chinese; working upon their weak souls by the most specious pretences, and terrifying their coward hearts with an exaggeration of his power; employing his emissaries, and bribing the leading Mandarines, till he got himself to be invited as regulator of the kingdom, thrown into such terrible disorder by the malecontents! Admitted thus far, it was an easy transition to slip into the throne! It was what the dexterity of his plausible ambition contrived; and having the address to palliate all objections, and power sufficient to awe the stubborn and refractory, he actually assumed the royal robes, and usurped the ancient sceptre of China, which the natives were unworthy to hold: for betraying and rejecting their lawful sovereign, and native prince, they deserved to be governed by a foreigner; who, indeed, was not unequal to the throne he filled. Thus the Tartarian king Tsoute, by the specious plausibility of policy, became the emperor of China, and cham of Tartary, without bloodshed; and what he could not win by force of arms, he gained by political address; peculiarly assisted by his good fortune, and the connivance of power in the highest superiority.

My father Ousanguay, the Chinese general, finding himself outwitted in his own craft, that he could not divert the Tartar, nor had suffi-

sufficient power to prevent the usurpation; true to the Chinese royal family, he would not acknowledge the usurper for king. He continued in open arms with some faithful friends, in hope the kingdom, not suffering a foreigner, would unite and expel the Tartars. But the Chinese were slaves, and one master was as good as another. Oufanguay still remained an implacable enemy to the Tartars, and to shew the constancy of his principles, and the fortitude of his soul, when they besieged him, and brought his captive father under the walls, vowing they would sacrifice him if he did not surrender: nothing moved by their protestations, and steeled against the sufferings of his aged parent, for his country's good still upright, he would not betray the royal cause; but left him to the all devouring sword of the Tartars. Yet his firmness availed not against the Tartar's good fortune; and indeed it is unavailable to stand out against apparent fate; for the great Oufanguay departed, and with him all Chinese valour. Thus the Tartarian family became deeply in-rooted in the Indian throne imperial; for such was the command of Providence!

Prince Zangola and myself were carried prisoners in the route of the rebels, to the unfrequented mountains, fastnesses inaccessible, deep caverns, and impregnable retreats: and all that time, actuated by the passion of revenge, he talked of nothing but compassing

the death of the arch rebel Ligh; for revenge absorbed every other passion. At length, by the bribe of a curious diamond the prince had concealed, he obtained our liberty, unknown to the traitor Ligh; whom we narrowly watched in disguise, suffering incredible hardships in the rocks of dangerous precipices. He that used to repose on the softest down of silken aese, be fondled in the arms of tenderness, and sport in the lap of pleasure, the child of fortune; now laid his princely head on the pillowed flint; his fine limbs were stretched on a hard rock, and all his whole person exposed to bitter winds, to driving snow, and clattering hailstones. His food was the niggard repast of wild uncultivation, and he gladly quenched his thirst like the mountain kid, clambering dangerous the craggy cliff at the running streamlet; lurking about from hill to cave, to give that death, which threatened every moment to seize our precarious lives with the tortures of malice.

At length the wished for moment came, and Ligh appeared all alone in a vale of rocks, where enclosing hills, high gathering to the clouds, hung tremendous with the frown of awful terror. The prince lowered close, collecting himself like the subtle leopard, waiting the approach of some fallacious wolf, intent to fly on him unexpected, and in a moment tear him limb from limb: so crouch-  
ed



ed the fierce prince, looking adequate to the great occasion, and more than human.

The arch rebel marched slowly on, heavy with loads of mental miseries, laid on by the hand of Justice; while all the unblunted stings of ever-waking Conscience lacerated his inmost soul, blackly stained with accumulated guilt: frowning disconsolate and black perturbation, he crept along, as if the curse of Fate was upon him. When he reached due distance, the greatly injured prince, like a roused lion, sprung up, crying; ye Gods, I thank you! and with a blow on the traitor's head, felled him to the ground; while I rushed in with a naked simitar for ready dispatch. Zangola jumped on his neck, and commanded me to tie his hands and feet, for he said, mine is the injury, be mine the revenge. Inspired by Revenge, we dragged the dismayed trembling caitiff into a deep cavern. We tied him up by the arms, undrest him; and now, said Zangola, his eyes glaring red fire, behold the horrid rights of Vengeance! myself will flee him alive! I shuddered at the thought, my blood curdled in my shrinking veins. The villain screamed terror! He begged a speedy death; I joined the request. No, he answered, Revenge can never be satisfied till it is glutted. He tore off the skin, flesh and all, quite over his left breast, where beats the heart. This to my father, he said: the wretch roared, the blood poured down; the prince

prince trembled, his face grew pale; and stripping down another part of his skin, he cried aloud, this to my bleeding country! At the poor malefactor's screams he staggered; his nature faltered; his stern revenge soon melted, and mercy began to humanize his visage. O my friend, he said, I can no more; relenting anger is pacified, and compassion takes place of fury! I will dispatch him! So saying, he plunged his dagger through his atoning heart, crying to my love; and the atrocious rebel gave up his forfeited life. Thus he satisfied the call of Justice, for the murder of his fellow subjects, the subversion of his country, and the death of his lawful sovereign.

We threw his carcass down a precipice, and a vulture himself, he became a prey to vultures, and he never was heard of more. Thus was torn in pieces, the fatal scourge of his country, which performing the flagellations of divine appointment, is always thrown by into the pit of destruction. We soon retreated safely down the mountains, and mingled with the unnoticed throng of Chinese. For safety we associated with the Bonzes, taking their habit after due initiation; at length meeting with some missionaries, we were converted; but by a rational deduction, and an acquaintance with the English, we found the Romish too superstitious, and followed the Protestant plan; as we were too much struck with the magni-

magnificence of the system, and the divine purity of its laws, to reject a religion, that teaching us to despise terrene delights, led the immortal spirit high up the refulgent paths of néver-fading glory!

At length the prince and myself, clearly penetrating into the shadowy nothingness of mundane delights, with the utter insufficiency of its best joys to give solid content, and sincere permanent happiness to the capacious spirit of man; rather apt to be vitiated than refined by the gratifications of pleasure: reflecting on the dangerous temptations of a world of seduction; critically investigating with precision, the weakness and fallacy of human reason; the intemperate fallies of youthful passion; the persuasive stimulation of keen appetites, and the almost insuperable force of tyrant habit, with the highest probability of an immortality; and that the actions of this life will have a tenfold effect on our futurity; we resolved to relinquish the world and all its fopperies. Accordingly, finding out this delightful solitude, directed by the hand of Providence, here we pitched our tent for life, and thus commenced hermits; fixed and happy in the social bands of congenial friendship!

But how my friend, asked the captain, can you make the Christian religion coincide with the eastern Bonze opinion of the transmigration of the soul, which I find you profess?

To-

To-morrow, replied the hermit, you shall hear that reconciled, in the surprising account delivered celestial-wise by prince Zangola; for now it is dinner time: and thus they retired.

SUNRISE, *orientally decorated.*

Now day spring from on high, announcing the rosy approach of morn, through the grey tranquility of twilight; the purple-vested harbinger of all cheering day standing tip-toe on the lofty mountain's top, proclaimed with early trumpet, loud sounding through the black pavilions of chaotic night, the bright propinquity of the glorious luminary. The silent moon, enrapt with fleecy clouds, descended from her silver throne of pallid light, and vanished westward with her starry train: while negro-fronted Night, obedient to the sound, retreated slowly as the day advanced, and from her jetty pinions shook the pearly dew. All Nature reviving by the God of day inspired, sprung refreshed alert with life, as at the glorious morning of gay production, when the magnificent creator called her offspring out of chaos; while innumerable companies of celestial beings, who stood astonished at the wonders rising beneath his forming hand; and penetrated with all the elegancies of supernal love, shouted aloud for joy; uniting with instrumental music, their own divine strains in vocal exultation!

Easily



Easily awaked by the matin song of early birds, gaily industrious to carry on the business of life, either in search of food, or sporting else in amorous dalliance; the friends shook off the gentle bands of sleep, formed of light digestion, and the fumes of virtuous food; and met the hermit as he came from offering up his daily oraisons in the grove of gratitude. Let us take our morning repast, said Theodore, to some convenient shade, where we may be delighted auditors of thy promised narration. The anchorite consented, and conducted them to the fragrant seat consecrated to friendship.

*oraisons*

They marched up the mountain's back spiral-wise, through path-worn thickets, and across the rocky barren of its antique sides; or where the bubbling spring, gushing from its fountain head, ran tinkling to the vale below, and imprinted furrows in its cascadious passage. At length they gained its lofty summit, whose fertile brow, rich in deepening loom, was crowned with devious palms and fragrant shrubs, leafy overhead defending from the sultry sun, yet opening their kind arms to invite the cool refreshing breeze; while the fresh herbage sprung beneath, gaily revived every night by soft descending dews, lightly distilling through Nature's cool alembic, by the chemic moon in midnight silence.

Amidst the imbowering shade, were raised up for convenient repose, rush-formed matting,

ting, whence opened, far distant as the eye could carry, bounded alone by the bluey hemisphere, the level Chinese prospect richly covered with rice, through which with endless track glittering canals gaily journeyed, bearing on their glassy bosoms innumerable frigates and gilded barges; prevented often by high over-arching bridges, crossed with busy throngs, inmixt with laborious horses and bunchbacked camels; while the golden pinnacles of superb temples, and the lofty turrets of pagodas, shot up through variety of garden scenes pleasingly magnificent. This on the left. In the midst was a rich valley, loaded with pasturage, crouded with lowing herds and fleecy flocks, whence shot up various hills, falling with easy slopes, ornamented with all the different shades of green-eyed Vegetation, pleasingly contiguous to unstrained vision. But to the right, emerging between two lofty mountains, a scene majestically awful, boldly displayed the wonders of the boundless ocean, whose sea-green wave, high rolling in cloud-aspiring billows, beat against the storm-defying rock, in curling surges foaming effectless rage; or sinking down a valley of enormous depth, to undermine the more imbecile vessels, mounted up again aloft its dropfical belly, bloated with aggregated excess, an aquatic mountain in the clouds, draining the sea to form its vast foundation; while ten thousand deaths sporting

ing in the tempest, ride in forkly lightening, on the bosom of the raging winds, and lurk unseen amidst the many pointed rocks and quicksands.

After the friends had feasted their eyes with this enchanting prospect, and their palates with the morning's collation, in the charming over-arching shade, the Chinese Anchorite re-assumed, at the desire of the visitants, his sweet discourse, which fell from his lips like the morning dew, refreshing to the fragrant woodbine; and thus he began full of sweet enthusiasm.

This flower-roofed bower, sacred to filial love, where captivated with the dear effusions of friendship, I have tasted the most refined delight which tuned my soul to a divine harmony by the finest feelings; this bower is to me a temple, which consecrated to holy purposes, is fit for the contemplation of the great Creator of all we behold, as well as gratefully bring to remembrance the best of princes: and thus he said with solemnity, standing at the approach with uplifted hands; Oh! thou almighty, and most beneficent supreme cause of all creation; be it the delightful habit of my soul to praise thee with elegance of love; till refining my immortal spirit, I become purified and fitted for the mansions of eternal glory, the association of exalted beings, and the fruition of thy beatific presence! He paused---struck with internal rapture at the scene,

and then proceeded. Pardon me my friends, he said, for transgressing upon your patience, who have come thus far in search of knowledge to the solitary recluse; but this feat, devoted to the memory of my dearest friend, exacts uncommon regard; and it is a sign of an inferior nature to be devoid of sensibility! Now I continue the theme.

After Zangola and myself had extricated ourselves from the dangers of a discovery, on which hung our certain destruction, we mingled with the busy world; striving by immersing into the depth of the present time, to forget the past, and bury the remembrance of departed happiness in oblivion. But however easy the task might prove to me, who lost so little by finding so delicate a friend, it became impossible for the prince to erase from his soul the deep impressions of love, which were imprinted by the transcending beauty and elegance of soul, so conspicuous in his fond bride. In the fulness of his heart he would cry, O Fate, had you but spared my dearest Philafanga, I would have condemned the loss of a world, which without her has not the power to confer any real happiness! Offering the gushing tear of love to her dear remembrance, how often would he invoke her name, as if she was present to his transports? How oft would he run in tender repetitions of her soft pathos of expression, and her becoming fondness? How oft would he



he dwell on the perfections of her mind, as well as on the agreeable sweetness, if not beauty of her easy unaffected person?

He would say, though the structure of her form had not that air of grandeur, that fine outside, which seem to dignify some people, but too often like a magnificent palace, contain a vicious inhabitant; yet she boasted an elegant simplicity, like that of a villa, which though small is of a delicate taste, and ornamented by a possessor bright with virtue and goodness. Peeping through her small Chinese eye, her soul smiled love and sensibility; and the lily prevailing in her cheek over the rose, while the ruby revived on her sweet lips, gave her an air of solemn serenity. But O! the tongue of eloquence would fail in delineating the amiability of her exalted mind. To mankind in general she was all benevolence; to me in particular all goodness, love, and fondness; but to her Creator all duty, submission, and gratitude.

In short, he found it impossible to disengage the loved idea from his heart, every day becoming more and more a prey to the sweet intoxications of love-sick melancholy. It was in vain that we travelled over China, and entered the territory of Siam. Sometimes we were Bonzes, and at other times Talopoins; but the least reflection detected the absurdity of their idolatrous worship, and the grossness and turpitude of their manners; therefore we  
forsook

forsook them, and in disguise joined the missionaries. From them we heard a sublime account of Deity, and the elements of a perfect morality; but we at length perceived the purity of their religion defiled by ambition, and contaminated by superstition. Their offering up prayers to the Deity in an unknown language; their cruelly locking up the sacred laws they pretended to propagate; their silly worshipping pictures, and paying needless adoration to a wafer, while they made a fallible man infallible, were such bare-faced affronts to common-sense, that in giving up the priests, we were quitting their religion; but at length we were set to rights by a judicious Englishman, with whom we travelled and gained European learning. As then from an Englishman I received the inestimable gift of knowledge, tis with the pleasure of gratitude, that to one of his nation I can account for the evil which prevails throughout this mundane system.

The idea which you form of the supreme Creator is, that he possesses goodness and power in the fulness of perfection; from which you naturally argue, that he could have no end to answer in the formation of his creatures but their happiness, and that he has plenitude of power for its completion. But on the other hand you perceive, and intimately feel, that the place of abode formed by the Deity for its creatures, is of absolute  
design,

design, not by chance sprinkled with imperfection; and though rich with a variety of delights, yet it is but to a very few the mansion of happiness. In many parts meteors carry inexpressible evils. While one region shivers with the bitter severity of cold, another is broiling under the rigours of a scorching sun, or drowned with cataracts of water, pouring incessant from the floodgates of the skies; and after drenching one country, overflowing another. Old ocean, with his watery mantle, covers half the globe; and another quarter is full of prodigious forests, barren deserts, and untenable solitudes: while it is with difficulty that we prevent savage beasts, and unprofitable weeds, from gaining upon the earth. Necessity compels us to bring the fruits of the earth to perfection, by the labours of cultivation; too often disappointed by the austere blasts of rigorous seasons, as if malignant powers were envious of, and frustrated the little good granted to, the sons of mortality.

But notwithstanding, it must be gratefully acknowledged, amidst these apparent evils, that the bounty of goodness has not forsaken the habitations of man; and though the deep footsteps of divine displeasure are easily traced throughout the globe, yet there shine noble and various manifestations of heavenly goodness and love; else indeed it would be altogether a hell, if it was surrounded with nothing but evil. In many places earth is embellished

bellished with floscular beauties creeping on the ground, or flowering fragrantly aloft on shrubby trees. Administering little to use, they glitter in all the elegance of shape and colour, and charm with their fragrance, as the decorations of Nature; proclaiming with the voice of love, we are not utterly disregarded by the best of Beings: while delicious fruits melting on the delighted palate, apart from their beauteous forms, carry utility in their nourishment! And as the terrestrial sphere is thus adorned, the glorious heavens are enlightened with astonishing magnificence, the beneficial sun fructifying all Nature, giving as it were, and preserving life. Nor does the sea and air want for subjects to raise admiration, and proclaim the goodness of a beneficent Creator. Let not then the gloomy heart betray its impatience, by a partial retrospection of Nature's picture, painted by Providence; nor studious to view things on their dark side, wilfully overlooking their beauties: for, however inexplicable the affairs of this world is to mortal sagacity, yet rest assured the maker and governor of all things is perfect Wisdom! Amen.

If we advert to man the lord of earth, and the master-piece of Creation, we find he is over-run with an amazing depravity, and the vast degradation of the lower class from the throne of perfection is astonishing. Creatures that appear newly come out of the hands of perfect-



perfection to be thus soon vitiated, is wonderful! Yet if we view the interior texture of the mind, what else can be expected from the immeasurable influence of custom and example, the voraciousness of appetite, and the outrageousness of intemperate passions, which hurry and impel; and the insuperable power of habit? opposed to which there is only a rational faculty, too easily deluded, and at the best a weak monitor without force or dignity! From the working of these under powers man becomes selfish, and then he is fitted, for the commission of the most atrocious actions to please himself, though they bring on the head of others excess of ruin!

You will say what armies of maladies, languishing sicknesses, and griping pains, declare war on man at his very birth; seldom failing one time or other inflicting the most excruciating torments; and that all are under a certain condemnation of death, though uncertain as to the time; for at last the most fortunate of human race, as well as the most dignified, must yield to the inevitable dart of death, that universal conqueror!

From the presence of these evils you will naturally inquire, what could be the cause why the great Creator, infinitely wise to plan, good to will, and powerful to effect, did not prevent the erection of this fatal magazine? has he not taste and power to make this transitory world a perfect paradise, to admit no-

thing but pleasure and happiness, and utterly exclude misery? Could he not easily modulate the human mind, in such a manner that there should be a perfect equilibrio of passions and reason, and have destroyed the tyranny of inadequate property, and founded a happy equability? What prevents? Is there any manichean power, or monstrous dragon, that war victorious against goodness? Or is all chance? Oh impious Tartar-Chinese, how many among your nobles are atheists! read but the book of Nature, and say if you can it has no author!

If I should answer it was proper we should go through a state of probation, you may say, why not first be introduced into that region we are to gain by obedience, when it is ten to one we fail in the trial, and so become vitiated, and unhinged for superior stations? And why should unoffending innocence, just after its birth, feel the least misery? Why should there be such dreadful denunciations of eternal sufferings, to those unhappy wretches who become disobedient, under so many almost insuperable disadvantages; ever open to the artful instigations of powerful spirits, invisible reigning in the contiguous air, the fatal destroyers of mankind, maliciously plotting our ruin here, and everlasting destruction hereafter? And what is most extraordinary, you may rejoin, why did it become absolutely necessary, that a deific personage should be humbled

humbled with the human form, be offered up a sacrifice to appease offended Justice, and save devoted man from the dreadful sword of divine Vengeance; that order might be put into a world so terribly disordered!

With these kind of sentiments have I exercised my mind, tormented by the painful disquietude of doubt, and labouring hard to unravel the mysteries of Providence; but being unsuccessful, I was just on the point of sitting down with humility, in the labyrinth which I could not explore, not daring to offend by the bold enquiries of Presumption: but my dear prince Zangola, at length poured on my philosophic soul perfect satisfaction: he gave me the clue which guided me to the portico of pre-existence, where rational tradition lending me the silver key, religious Philosophy opened the vast gate, and plainly discovered to mortal eyes, the mysteries of Providence!

That ideal affection for my sister, which preyed on the vitals of the prince, made me strive, fearful of his death, to lighten the burthen of his heart; and indeed I ever gave him, with the utmost sincerity, the strongest testimonies of friendship. Twice at the hazard of my own, I preserved his life; the first time, when he was sinking down a canal, where he was plunged by the fright of his young horse; and the last in battle, when surrounded by the foe, he would have been cut

to pieces; I rushed in, furious with despair for his life, and broke him a passage for escape: and at all times I took every occasion to manifest the ardour of my friendship, by mollifying his pangs, assuaging his grief, and sharing his sorrows; the partner of his joys, his fellow-labouring and assistant in solitude and philosophy; by which I so perfectly endeared myself to his honest feeling heart, that in the gratitude of rapture he would cry, a sincere friend is more estimable than a magnificent kingdom!

At length his delicate frame, harrassed with that ever lacerating remembrance, which agitated his soul, sunk by gentle degrees, though supported by superior principles, under the pressure of pleasing melancholy: for his soul, ever wafted on raised and exalted hope, was frequently on the wing to extricate itself from its terrene manacles, and to explore regions more pure and happy. In his declining moments, sweetly discoursing on the soul's immortality, and the perpetuity of friendship and love, even in stations more exalted; we frequently made reciprocal promises, that he whose active spirit was first released from the prison of flesh, should, if possible, obtain permission, post away towards earth, and give his surviving friend an interesting account of man-affecting causes, and a succinct history of heaven, and its immortal inhabitants. Just before the prince expired in the arms of friend-



friendship, embracing me to his heart panting its last, he thanked and blest me for the sincerity of my affection, and made a renewal of his promise with prophetic ardour; then his bright soul took wing, and left me disconsolate-----Spare me the tear due to friendship, the anchorite said, and paused.

*An Apostrophe to Friendship.*

Oh amiable Friendship, sweet queen of elegance! after whom the soul breaths the most tender aspirations; thou most delicate of pleasure's offspring, why dost thou elude our busy research? or melt in the fond embrace an illusive vapour? Oh, whither dost thou fly? In what fair region art thou to be found? for capacitated to receive and admire thee, I know thou art in existence! Has kind heaven vainly planted in the human heart a god-like sensibility, for ever to be mocked with tantalizing pangs and unreal enjoyment? shall the heart inefficaciously refine itself, never to meet its darling delight? If thou, of a nature too delicate, dost vanish soon as courted, from the mansions of mortality----shall we never meet? Oh yes we shall, for Nature <sup>now</sup> whispers to the pining soul, do not despair! though denied here, in more happy regions you shall participate her most charming gratifications, not deluded by fictitious phantoms; for there is no falsehood to betray imparted secrets; no treachery to sting the fostering

tering bosom, nor sly designing cunning to twine itself round the heart it tries to ruin! She will then discover herself not painted by the pencil of deceptious Pretension; ever found wanting in the scale of trial, and the hour of misfortune! but she will shine out in all her native beauty, attended by Generosity, immortal Truth, and soothing Sensibility. There in gardens blooming perpetual beauty, she will fix you in the delicious seats of joy, and for ever furnish the soul with repasts the most pleasing, and which never pall upon the palate of Gratification; for Sincerity is her guide, and her heart is upon her lips! She has a window in her fair bosom, through which she gladly discovers the origin of infant Thought; for open Truth to all her offspring is ever paternal! But hear what she herself is speaking. You, Oh mortals, are unworthy my favour, who, destitute of the principles which fair Religion teaches, disobey, and break through the beautiful laws of soul-refining Virtue! Now his grief dispelled, the hermit thus began.

*The angelic Visitation of ZANGOLA, from the intermediate Sphere.*

Invited by the soft tranquility of a delightful morning, my heart deeply imprest with the image of my dear prince; remembrance ever drawing some pleasing picture to Imagination's eye of his actions; I climbed a new path

path for the sake of variety, up the more shady sides of this most extensive chain of mountains, forgetting the fatigue of labour in pleasing reveries of Zangola, and in solemn meditation. I rambled on to some unknown part of the mighty eminence, attracted by the soft echoes of distant music, dying away in gentle accents among reverberating archades. At length I came through a narrow grove of oranges, to the summit of an elevation; which being flat, formed a valley beneath surrounding hills, whose lofty heads rising upwards with a gentle slope, were crowned with ever-verdant myrtle, inmixt with oranges and citrons, loaded with golden fruit, and decorated with fragrant blossoms. The flowery outom-chu, the delicate letchi supporting vines rich with clustering grapes; the milky coco, and delicious pine-apple, disposed in a peculiar taste, with a variety of the most beautiful sweet-smelling shrubs, made the vale appear a scene of eye-deceiving enchantment.

All the smooth surface of the fragrant valley was spread with velveted moss, and bright green turf; while flowers of all colours and forms, were interwoven with the lucid verdure; in the midst of which was a sweet transparent fountain, that gave coolness to the scene, and running here and there in a silvery streamlet through the shrubs, led the willing eye along the shade with elegant diversity.

I re-

I reclined on the rich carpet, more to enjoy the magic scene, than from the pain of fatigue. Bowering over my head orange and lemon trees, and myrtle interwoven with clustering vines, blushing with ripe grapes, and supporting the climbing woodbine, and delicate jasmin; formed an elaborate arbour arranged by the inimitable hand of libertine Nature, as if sporting in a mood of joyous gait! Enraptured, I thought myself in a new world! and as prepared to be accosted by some divine inhabitant.

There, as I lay involved in the fruition of a paradise, the soft dulcet strains of harmony reviving upon the charmed ear more audibly, now became distinct around my heavenly couch----Starting up, surprized with the fulness of rapture, rushing upon mortality; looking down a beautiful vista, my struck eyes encountered, through the variegated shade, beams of celestial glory, whose lucid rays surpass the meridian sun in brightness, as they played round delightful.

Immediately a divine voice, accompanied with seraphic melody, sang from above: *God is great!* and a response was returned in the same cherubic strains----*But he is good!* Then the first voice rejoined----*God is just!*----at which a full chorus of heavenly voices uniting sang----*But his darling attribute is mercy!*----Then appeared, slowly descending from amidst opening clouds, a royal chariot of burnished gold,



gold, tinged with shades of crimson, and purple sprinkled with the tube-rose and lily; in the midst of which sat a divine personage, whose elegant form was in the perfection of human beauty. When the brilliant car stopped he alighted, and as he sat his feet on earth, sweet violets sprang up, and moving with celestial elegance he came towards the vernant arbour. A lustrous diadem sparkling with brilliant stars graced his head, and from his shoulders flowed a luminous cincture between the downy silver of two beauteous wings, whiter than driven snow! His eye for brightness was like the morning star! his open forehead smooth as ivory, was fair as the purest blossom, whose whiteness by insensible degrees lost itself in the rich carnation blush of roses, blooming on his youthful cheek; while all heaven shone graceful on his lovely mouth, which smiled ineffable goodness, divinely corrected with supernal Wisdom! All Nature as he moved appeared struck with awful silence, save now and then dulcified with the soft dying sighs of liquid flutes, just audibly losing themselves amidst repeating rocks. The mid-day sun rested in his fiery chariot, beneath the azure dome of earth's encircling temple; and Nature gave attestation of some august personage visiting her blyth domains.

Thus as he solemnly approached, the more agreeably to prepare me for a divine colloquy, he smiled unutterable condescension, to em-

bolden my heart, and take off that awe which we naturally imbibe at the appearance of every thing supernatural. I fell before him with the most submissive prostration, in the same manner as I used at court, to pay my duty to the late cham, or emperor of China. Then his voice more enchanting sweet than the softest flute, said, rise O my friend, and behold thy Zangola faithful to his promise! At that I arose, and recollected my prince in the fine symetry of his features. Yes I cried enraptured, it is my gracious prince! and I was about to embrace his celestial form in the ardency of love; but he said, be seated. Then I cried, Ah my lord, is it permitted me to enquire after the state of my sister? Know, he replied; she was good, and is happy. Not to lose the hour of permission in the questions of vain curiosity, be thou auditor, whilst I, who know what knowledge will be most profitable, infuse to thy soul, the wonders of celestial history; which will shew the propriety of giving up the follies of this world, to gain the happiness of immortality! So saying, he waved his fair hand, which held the blossoms of the tree of life, and there appeared growing before us, as it were a magnificent pavilion from a stamina, like the lofty oak spreading from its folded acorn. In the midst of the pavilion, which, formed as of gaily-streaked tulip leaves, enclosed us round, there uprose gaily grand an elegant throne, flower-built, sweetly festooned

festooned with roses! Around us up grew, as by magic, pillar-like, trees of the most delicate construction, whose capitals, as if supporting the dome-like roof, germinated rich blossoms of every hue and fragrance; with loaded branches depending variety of blushing fruit. The sunny beam darting through equal inlets, against opposite crystals waying from silver chains, gave a delightful lustre, as from a thousand silver lamps breathing rich perfume!

The celestial personage ascended the throne, and after he had seated himself, he thus began; all Nature was wrapt in the deepest tranquility, as when the solemn moon at midnight dispatches silence over the still of Night's, profound with soft repose to sooth the sons of Care.

*The HISTORY of HEAVEN.*

*The origin of Evil. The Pre-existent Lapse.*

Oh my Confuciango, he said, I do not perform my promise so much to gratify curiosity, as to enforce Virtue; that by giving you adequate ideas, you might point out to your fellow-creatures the paths which lead to unfading happiness, teach them to purify their souls from contamination, and regain their lost seats of glory: for these important actions are alone worthy a celestial visitation. You must observe in speaking of metaphysical

subjects, I shall adapt my diction to received expressions, and adopted language; for to discourse of Deity as he really exists, and of spirit unembodied, would be to render myself utterly unintelligible. Nay, the most exalted cherubin and seraphim find their gracious Creator totally incomprehensible; for a lesser cannot contain a greater circle. But now attend to wonders far above the diurnal sphere, and be thy soul illumined! He said, and paused; and then methought mortality fell from me, like the caterpillar's ordinary form, when he becomes invested with elegance, and shaking his golden wings disdain- ing earth, he flies exulting towards heaven. Thus finding my capacity of soul enlarged, I felt all spirit disencumbered from a load of body. Then looking godlike importance, he thus began:

The glorious supreme emperor of all universe, consists of three persons existing from all eternity; but in what manner surpasseth understanding, as much as it would be absurd, as well as unphilosophical, to say such an existence is impossible.

But as nothing is more fundamental in religion than the true worship of Deity, know that there is but one God, in whom co-essentially subsist three divinely distinct, though inseparable infinite minds, distinguished by the appellations of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: and without we adore God with this idea, we  
worship



worship erroneously. A perfectly harmonious consciousness, which continuing the same in each other, constitute them numerically one God eternally co-existing. It is impossible to form adequate ideas of our own spirit, much more so of the infinite mind; but material allusions may serve to assist the weakness of our capacity. The glorious sun consists of light, heat, and motion, inseparably existing all together at once, in absolute unity, neither one afore or after. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, as emanative effects subsist instantaneously with their cause, were always undividable; one is not afore or after. And were it possible, as it is common to say that several are of one mind, for three people to participate a completely mutual consciousness; they would become one in perfect unity to all intents and purposes; one would be their desires, disposition, and will; and in consequence the same would be their actions: and this mortals sometimes find verified for a few moments, in the generous delicacy of love and friendship, in some exalted minds approaching towards divinity. These comparisons, however inadequate, may give a faint idea of revealed Deity, which, though above, is not incongruous to reason; but the belief is highly consonant to the dignity of the human soul! and perfectly inducive of morality!

The omnific Son, the second person, called Son from his partaking the same divine nature

ture with the Father, created heaven, that is a kingdom as it were, the seat of perfect pleasure, glory, and happiness; where Deity more particularly resides, who fills unbounded space. The tongue of men, and of angels, cannot adequately describe the ecstatic delights of its unfading joy, it cannot enter into the heart of man to conceive its vast, its unutterable bliss; nor is the human soul now capacitated to receive and understand its raptures: suffice it then to say it is the perfection of glorification, and that finite there becomes absorbed in the abyss of infinite bliss! This of the superior delights of exalted excellency. The inferior may bear the pencil of subordinate delineation.

If to enumerate the delights of earth you recognize its magnificence, its superb palaces, with all its attendant grandeur of golden thrones, the lofty monarch crowned with the glittering diadem, surrounded with all the pomp of guards, and courtiers paying obsequious adoration. Not these, and could they be ten thousand times more, can be compared to the glory of God, dispensing divine favours around the throng angelic; but indeed may be a faint shadow to give some little idea of supernal grandeur. And as to palaces, they spring up spontaneous as it were obedient to our wishes, in the utmost perfection of taste, where emeralds, rubies, topazes, and brilliant diamonds are the most ordinary materials; while

while silver and gold are accounted as trifles. Your terrestrial gardens serve extremely well to administer delight the most innocent and best adapted to mankind; but above, it is the common pastime of the lower order of beings, to arrange in perfection paradises of heavenly elegance, where flowers immortal, never fading shrubs gaily blooming and richly fragrant attract sensation; with beauteous trees loaded with golden fruit of flavours incomparably delicious. There rivers of milk flow gently calm, with streamlets of sparkling wine, and chrystal serpentizing round verdant beauties of every form; while millions of edifices erect their golden heads in all the grand diversity of towers, obelisks, temples, pyramids, palaces, and pleasure saloons. Sweet variety intermingles likewise aspiring fountains, breaking into beauteous forms, reflecting every gay colour, with impetuous cascades, rushing furious down the most romantic rocks; and wide seas to aggrandize the scene, where billows sometimes mount up prodigious, void indeed of all danger; while she spreads the smooth serene lake, where glorious yachts ride adorned with streamers blazing beauteous, all breathing serephic unity of designation.

If your emperors ride in their triumphal chariots to visit their dominions, we form in a moment ten thousand golden cars; or expand our silver wings, and fly through amazing

ing space, and view not a little kingdom, but the wonders of the starry grandeur, the planetary systems, and worlds unnumbered; with all their countless inhabitants! Whatever you taste that is charming to the soul, whether conveyed by grosser sensation, or by more refined reflection, we possess, in the highest degree of perfection; without the least alloy, or turpitude, or repentance: for in heaven it is the angelic privilege to indulge in the utmost reach of gratification! But these are the entertainments of the lower orders, that may rise by easy gradations to joys of a nature more sublime.

But above these divertisements, which bear a correspondence to the joys so attractive on the diurnal sphere, there are the divine reciprocations of seraphic amity, of which you have on earth an ideal, but not an actual knowledge: and it is to thy praise, O Confuciangio! that thou bearest in thy bosom such a portion of that cherubic flame as does thee honour; and the more disinterested thy affection towards me is blooming, thy nature grows the more refined. But know, O my dear friend, that the perfection, and exaltation of that passion, even in heaven, is to fix the sincerest love on the beauty and goodness of the Creator, in all the fervency of seraphic ardour; till the pure spirit, inflamed with ecstatic rapture, becomes as it were mixt and assimilated in the fountain of bliss divine!

Great



Great and unbounded are the joys of intellectual disquisitions, which we feel in perfecting our capacities by the attainment of endless knowledge, in the endless works of Creation; that shine prodigious amidst innumerable worlds, suns, moons, stars, spheres, and comets, grandly flowered throughout all space. But the fruition of perfect bliss, in its most exalted state of ecstasy, almost too much for created spirits themselves to bear, though of the highest dominations, results from the solemn act of public adoration, when myriads on myriads of glorious angels, archangels, cherubins, and seraphims, thrones, dominations, powers, and virtues, and all the noble host of heaven, assemble with unspeakable magnificence to worship, praise, love, and obey, the ineffable Trinity; who effulgent in the glorification of eternal love, goodness, and power, reveals as bright a portion of the divine manifestation of Deity, as it is possible for created existences to bear without sinking under the weight of insupportable glory! Thus much of the joys of heaven. Let but the sons of earth give up their transitory follies, and they are theirs, with endless duration!

Perfectly happy in his own glorious self-sufficiency, the great Omnipresent existed alone from all eternity: but actuated by god-like goodness, and possessing plenitude of power, he divinely resolved to confer exten-

five existence on a variety of beings; who arrayed with a portion of celestial glory, should enjoy inestimable happiness. So exalted his beneficence! so unbounded his benevolence!

Therefore the great deific Son, by whom all things were made, created in time out of nothing, the most sublime arch-angels; who the first formed children and ministers of deity, and next him in exaltation, were the most lovely, intellectual, and potent, in the scale of beings. For the glory of God, and their own celestial happiness, were they created! These were in being before I knew existence, for I was formed of a second order. All of a sudden, myself, with many millions of angels, were produced by the omnific word; and in an instant I felt perceptibility. The external vehicle which inclosed the mighty intellectual faculty, to which it became subservient, was bright with the decorations of supernal beauty; while the faculties of my spirit, I found, were nobly extensive. Something analogous to human passions, but of a purer nature, and counterpoised by a righteous reason, actuated my holy spirit. The first delight I experienced was perfect love to my creator; the sweet emanations of whose bright beams, played rapture on my new being, and cultivated the growth of divine affections, which like harmony divine, thrilled over my whole powers, and gave the finest feelings of celestial transport!

Figure

Figure to yourself, but it is impossible you should judge adequately, what unutterable bliss, and pleasure in astonishment, beamed almost insufferably delightful through my whole being, when as it were awaking out of nothing, and struck with a consciousness of existence, I beheld millions of cherubins and seraphims, circling amphitheatre-wise, the ineffably glorious pavilion-throne of the most high; singing his matchless praise in celestial songs to golden instruments; recounting their own bliss; breathing love and gratitude, and hailing the new-born sons of God to the mansions of delight! Our heavenly souls glowed with divine rapture, to the eternal power in the enclouded pavilion for our creation, and melted internally, with all the sweet sensibility of perfect love towards our gracious king, and all our fellow creatures; till our rapture becoming almost insupportable, we were relieved by joining the angelic train, that led the way to more ordinary pleasures, but altogether scenes of astonishment!

There the most superb palaces of jewels, reflecting every beauteous colour in possibility; and others neatly delicate, in unfading gardens blooming immortal pleasure, completed the seats of bliss, amidst rivers of flowing silver finished by the hand of Perfection. Here we often diversified entertainment with the sincere and tender reciprocations of love and divine friendship, that gave inimitable grace,

not only to the beauty of all surrounding elegance, but to our external loveliness. But the more we divinely glowed with the ardency of refined love towards our glorious God, who is of all beings, beyond all comparison, the most amiable, the more beautiful and exalted became our intellectual faculties, our pleasures more refined, and more perfect our happiness.

The whole celestial race from time immemorial, enjoyed unabating happiness. The highest order of angelic beings were exalted next to the Deity itself, whose beauty was incomparable, but with the fountain of perfection, whose glory surpasses the brilliancy of the sun, and whose power next to, and only bounded by, infinite, was so perfectly extended as were proper to complete their goodness, satisfy rationality, and stimulate love and gratitude, to the sublime benefactor. A vast space of time these high and mighty arch-angels enjoyed their existence, in the common and peculiar gratifications of the heavenly mansions, winging abroad in bright companionship, through the wide expanse of creation, down the deep profundity of space; or soaring aloft up the sublimity of infinitude, flying from world to world, and system to system. In the grand diversions of trackless excursions, they directed comets, and superintended systems, returning back with enlarged capacities, delivering their embassy, and  
adoring



adoring the great supreme, through a sense of his astonishing power and goodness. In loving him as their chief good, they revolved with deep humility, a serene consciousness of their own comparative incompetency. Thus they enjoyed themselves in reciprocating the amity of immortal friendship, exercising wisdom in the knowledge of causes and effects, and tracing science to its exhaustless fountain with their equals; and in condescending with the sweetness of gentle humility, to their inferiors, of a lower rank in the hierarchy of angels.

But at length they grew vain, too much struck with the splendid beauty of their exterior form, which of whatever extension they assumed, they had the peculiar virtue of assimilating, in a loveliness and splendor essential to themselves; for all spirits exist not but in vehicle, except the unbounded creator, who containing all things is himself unlimited. Withdrawing too much their meditations from Deity, they began to revolve with conscious pride, the primeval excellency of their vast intellectual faculties; exulting in the immensity of their power, by comparison with lower natures; though appearing as nothing when set in competition with the omnipotent!

Towering a loft in his splendid sphere of pre-eminence, like a demi-god as you talk, shone magnificent that once great arch-angel,  
him

him whom the Christians name Lucifer, more bright than the morning star; and whom the vain Chinese worship under the direful form of a dragon. Divinely favoured above his fellows, he was endowed with qualities most noble, which should have exacted suitable returns of a noble gratitude. But at length, as if he fetched his grandeur from himself, and gave it support from his own internal virtue, he first grew enamoured with the beauty of his personality, and sensibly affected with his intellectual superiority; till he became ashamed to reflect that he should owe obligation, or confess a superior, with ardent aspirations after independency.

Every intelligent created being, even of the highest order, possess, though in a superior manner, powers of mind that bear analogy to the œconomy of the human soul. The sun of reason illumines their faculties, while in you it is overclouded. They naturally feel the motion of affections, but of a gentler tendency, with few external temptations to accelerate their volocity beyond their due temper. Thus Lucifer the morning star first admiring, loving and adoring the power, beauty and goodness, of the divine majesty; being himself of an exalted nature, he felt within a generous emulation to become like peerless divinity, and perform such matchless actions! But soon conscious of his own imperfection, and that he could not equal the most high,  
he

he became abashed; but not humbled with due modesty. To emulate supreme Goodness in his benevolent character, is in the most inferior beings highly laudable; but to be dissatisfied not to equal him is impious! Had the grand angel rested here, under the auspices of sweet Humility, he would have been praise worthy; and prevented that torrent of wide-spreading evil, which deluges the whole earth! But Oh, fatal resolve! against the energetic remonstrances of illuminated Reason, in direct opposition to the voice of never-sleeping Conscience; sometimes in doubtful suspense, wavering this way and that, still ashamed to change his sentiment, but proudly obstinate in wrong, he followed the perverse turn he gave his mind; and by insensible degrees, became actuated by the vilest of impulses, that of envy! Dire perturbation first shook his angelic mind, and he started when Reason told him what a viper he was nourishing in his bosom! Then he encouraged some faint desires to expel the malignant passion, at the instances of Honour, Duty, Reason, and Conscience: but Pride now beginning to hold dominion in his heart, deafened their remonstrances with his own importance; and then Envy in the throne of Reason became seated predominant! and since he could not equal the most high, he resolved an independent throne should give him dignity.

Thus

Thus gratifying without restraint the effusions of self-love, that grand impulse of the spirit became degraded into selfishness; which at length begat haughty Pride, the father of Ingratitude, who elbowing the spirit of Innocence down the last step of its throne of purity, gave his heart the pollution of inflexible Hatred, and the dire contamination of ruinous Rebellion; by which he was hurled headlong from the glorious seats of blessedness, and involved in the black abyss of inexpressible misery!

After Lucifer had been brooding over his bold desire of absolute independency, he convened his compeer arch-angels, in a vast extensive kind of hall, which inclosed them, and though easily penetrated by spiritual powers, yet were to them, as a shade to sublunar beings. In proportion as the grandeur of his own mind was faded, he added to the council chamber magnificence. A thousand lustres shone from golden sockets, which reflected against pillars of diamonds, sparkled with peculiar irradiation. As he was rising from a lofty throne blazing with jewels, to harangue the arch-angels, the glory of the great creator Son appeared visible in a cloud, which diminished not only the lights, but the very angels themselves; and he thus spoke, in the paths of duty is found perfect happiness; in disobedience misery unlimited. O ye sons of God make your choice, there is no constraint.

You



You bear unblemished, the high prerogative free will! The whole assembly felt themselves as it were thunder-struck. Many, conscious in the very inmost soul, to the cogency of the words, and their own weakness, retreated: but the growing pride of Lucifer, resisting the gracious calls of divine love, obdurate his heart; and disdaining to retract his sentiments, he despised the sacred admonition, and rising half confused, and half abashed, he thus delivered himself, faltering thrice with conscious ingratitude.

If Oh ye glorious arch-angels, we are not absolutely equal to the most high, are we not greatly superior to multitudes, even of those who shine exalted in the rank of beings? If they pay us homage, do we exact the tribute of adoration? Do we issue forth commands, to which they are ever bound to give implicit obedience? and undisturbed in their felicity, is not of us their happiness independent? Where then is the propriety, for the most exalted beings to be eternal slaves to one power? A report prevails that he is our creator! Might he not politicly infuse this idea, in order more firmly to bind the chains of servitude. And if he is, why are we not self-existent? And where, O mighty dominations, where would be the crime in asserting our native liberty? He stopped. Then Michael uprose, who came to detect their folly; and thus he address himself to proud ambition.

Oh mightiest among the mighty, how dimmed already is the lustre of thy glory! How polluted the native purity of thy spirit, from the indulgence thou gavest to vanity! The almighty power whom you fondly question, and of whom it is thy greatest misfortune to remain in ignorance; Oh fatal wilful ignorance that is brightly wise to blind reason! He not only was thy creator, but he can puff thee to non-existence. He is the fountain of perfect happiness, to them who prove dutiful; but will give those over to absolute misery, who become disobedient. Let me then, O prince, advise thee, me illumined for that purpose, to retract thy dangerous surmises; nobly to return obedient, and the best and most gracious of all beings will accept thee, with the utmost benignity. But if in obstancy thou art found persisting, be the consequent of folly thy own act, and the blame fall on thy own unrighteous head. God is too good to be the author of evil! Amen! Michael ended, bowing modest respect in the dignity of superior goodness.

His eyes glowing indignant fire; the bold spirit uprose, and thus delivered the first angelic intemperance. Shall we be tutored by a mean slave, who poor of soul, finding his little benefits by flattery, dares not think for himself! Away, this advice, like thyself, is despicable. It is becoming you, indeed, to fawn and flatter, and fall prostrate before his throne.

throne. We shall follow confels more worthy our dignity; and where alone due, shall alone pay adoration. That potentate, who cannot bear his claim to universal monarchy disputed, tacitly confesses an arbitrary will, and a consciousness of want of Justice; for truth always courts the eye of investigation. But thou, O miscreant! by thy flattering speeches of loyalty, courtest the power thou hast not courage to scrutinize; publicly avowing thy love of slavery, and a determination to support a tyrant, whether his claim is upheld by truth, or by injustice!

To whom Michael replied, be not my sensibility for my fellow creature lost in my zeal for our Creator. Let me, noble domination, appear in thy eye contemptible, so I can but re-kindle in thy breast that holy flame which now languishing, glowed once such ardours, in gratitude to the most good, and most gracious of all beings, as well as the most powerful! Return then, for he will receive thee with paternal affection. But know the nature of his universal, and eternal government, of all creation dispersed through infinite space, cannot dispense with thy allegiance! And offended Justice, for the sake of every existence, in every world, must give up the wilful criminal, maugre the sweet entreaties of mercy to the inflictions of punishment. Chuse then ye highly favoured of heaven, ~~for before~~ ye are happiness and misery!

He said; he bowed humble of mein, and expanding his broad bespangled wings, took his flight; and they all retired full of doubtful uncertainty. Lucifer beholding advice in the shade of insult, went folding his wings, tormented with envy and malice against Michael.

Now the great deific Son, the express image of paternal Deity, sitting in the centre of the universe, on his orby throne of light unapproachable; and reviewing the works that were made by his almighty hands, to which we had witnessed, received the angelic viceroys of worlds, with the homage of every order, and rank of seraphic beings; the infinite Father in the sublime adoration of the Son, being solemnly glorified; who said, worship him Oh all ye angels of God!

Protesting he would not adore the Son; the haughty arch-angel now abandoned to pride, gave himself up to hate the good he could not equalize; and to nourish fatal Rebellion. Without forcing his will, eternal goodness condescended to every method, proper to reclaim the falling angel; but he made his bad heart more and more obdurate, by construing the goodness of condescension, into the weakness of fear. Then he revolted, and publicly owned himself a rebel, by absolutely refusing to pay that adoration to the eternal Son, which the righteous Father required. Thus wicked himself he longed to render others equally flagitious! Under the  
most




most plausible pretensions, and most artful insinuations, mingled with the desperate glosses of falsehood, he drew after him in the guilt of Rebellion, that most dreadful lapse! the third part of heaven; and strengthened by prodigious numbers, he denounced war on the most high God, publicly declaring his intention to pull down the almighty, usurp his throne, and give liberty to all the host of heaven!

As to myself, among others of my own rank, he had too fatally prepared my heart for the deceptions of artifice, by which I gave unduly into the motions of vain self-love, that great source of degradation to even mortals! I contemplated, encouraged by him, my own happiness with too much self-complacency: I viewed the beauty of my angelic vehicle, and exercised my intellectual faculties, which were eminently extensive, with opiated satisfaction; stifling sentiments of humility, growing cool to gratitude, losing the soft feelings of sensibility, encouraging a kind of envy towards the more exalted, denying due regards to equality, and treating inferiority with unbecoming depression; losing the divine relish of goodness, the heavenly taste for undefiled honour; glorifying Deity with my lips, while I was estraying from him my heart! Yet feeling compunctions, and giving way to penitence, my happiness was restored by returning duty.

In

In one of those moments when I had withdrawn my heart from Deity, and had placed it on myself, the beguiler came and flattered my importance, spoke highly of himself, and his desire to restore heaven to its natural liberty, casting derogatory glances on Perfection, denying his attributes; reproaching the eternal for assuming the impossible name and perfections; impossible he most boldly asserted because incomprehensible, and therefore absurd! But Oh, how can finite comprehend infinite? He declared it was making angels vile slaves, to adore the person called Son; and that if not resisted, his tyranny might become irresistible. He promised to exalt me, to the utmost eminence of power and magnificence. In short, he perfectly deluded my unguarded soul, and I went over to him in company with crowds of angels, a rebel to my glorious benefactor the king of heaven.

All-gracious Mercy and Goodness, foreseeing our fatal lapse, employed every becoming method to withdraw us from the arch traitor, without forcing our wills; but too many turned a deaf ear, with a heart obdurate! I was on the point of flying to the banner of allegiance, but the jeers and scoffs of fellow rebels retarded my flight, till it was too late; for we soon were fearfully attacked by Michael, and the prodigious conflict shook all heaven to its centre. We retreated, heartily



tily tired, though not discomfited. At length to evince the full Deity of the eternal Son, the omniscient Father gave the whole war into the power of the second person; who mounting his globous car of fire, ten times more big, more brilliant, and more fiery than the sun itself, marched at the head of his angels, who were only spectators, not assistants: his power being more than sufficient to extirpate our army, were it a myriad times more potent. What language can express the terror that struck and melted our very souls at his divine presence! We retreated with astonishment; we fled with horror! To withstand was impossible against almighty wrath! With our innocence we lost our native beauty and power! The battlements of heaven opened wide to give us retreat, and disgorged us into a dark abyfs of unutterable pain and astonishing horror! But yet no place could be so terrible, as the presence of offended deity inflicting vengeance, and wrath divine. What were our prodigious agonies? The good angels themselves hid their faces terrified! The whole universe felt convulsed the power of offended deity, and paid obedience! After our expulsion from heaven, we sunk confounded down the vast of utter darkness, full of the most excruciating torments, into the depth of excessive misery, and outrageous ruination. You might obtain some faint idea of our matchless distress, if in a leaky vessel

vessel you was on a rocky sea, in a prodigious tempest, the heavens covered with darkness, just diversified with catching streaks of red lightening, forerunning the horrid burst of loud thunder; while monstrous billows toss you into the clouds; then sink you to the bottom of the black abyss; splitting you at last on direful rocks, till you are perishing though free from a watery death, by cold and hunger, vexation, fatigue, terror and despair!

Thus the horrific regions of unbating misery, received us groaning with agonizing terrification. Immediately the tremendous jailor, in bulk direfully extended, straining his prodigious arms, shut upon us the tenfold barricade of solid adamant, which joined the extremities of the wonderous walls of brass in which we were painfully immured, denying all escape. Then he turned the fatal key of durance, and upheaving the massy bars of sounding steel, and driving on the ponderous bolts thundering to their sockets, he secured us safely in our shocking dungeons; whose hideous tenebrosity darkened our very spirits to the utmost gloominess. Then Vengeance, with the most agonizing torments, flew vulture like upon our defenceless spirits, and harrowed up the soul with the pangs of unutterable misery! Such was the preposterous change introduced by selfishness, pride, and transgression! Oh what a fall from elegance and delicious pleasure!

Thus



Thus banished from the joy-producing presence of benign Deity, quitting those happy mansions of immortal bliss, and our once dear companions, who wept such tears as happy angels shed for our rueful lapse; we suffered a most dreadful expulsion from the lofty battlements of heaven. Confusion, and Horror, who awaited our reception, became themselves terrified at our fall prodigious. It seemed then as if all nature was in a furious hurricane of opposition. Tremendous thunders, that made even chaos stop his callous ears, around us roared horrible, and seemed the voice of almighty ire pronouncing direful denunciations. Red bickering lightening, darting on every side, pierced us to the very soul, and left no part unscarred. At length, as if down a precipice, we dropped into an amazing dungeon of gulfy misery; and here bounded by excess of pain, we had time for reflection to give our torments the finishing stroke! Repetition tires not to paint the horrent scene!

As to myself, and innumerable companions of fallen spirits, conscious of our own vile ingratitude, and feeling the soothing motions of encouraged compunction, we separated from the proud bands of haughty Satan; who, disdainful all remorse, vowed perpetual hatred, and everlasting revenge towards the Omnipotent; palliating his dire defeat with the excuses of chance, ill-fortune, fate, and unluckiness; while he was promising the lying hope of a

speedy restoration. But us they treated with the utmost contempt and despite, calling us traitors and dastards, through whose perfidy and cowardice they lost the battle. Then blaspheming the most high, and defying his terrific Son, obdurate their essence, they became perfectly reprobate; till they so utterly vitiated their once noble natures, that they hated goodness, delighted in wickedness, and contemned with the utmost spite of haughty indignity, every proffer of gentle mercy, disdain the very thought which whispered the submissions of repentance. They hated Deity not only for his being the god of Justice, but for his goodness, as well as almighty energy in creation. Such their envy! such the impotence of malice!

Far different with us; we deplored the lost seats of bliss, wept over our egregious folly and ingratitude, and under the scourge of Punishment, acknowledged the justice of our sufferings: but repentance taking possession of our willing spirit, we breathed the fervent aspirations of new-born Hope, that infinite Goodness would find some method to satisfy infinite Justice, and deterge us from our pollutions; till purifying and exalting our debased and vitiated nature, it procured us everlasting pardon, and reinstated us in our lost seats of happiness!

Our hope and desires were not vain, for the immaculate Son, beholding us from his placid

placid throne of mild light, and deeply penetrating the inmost suggestions of our souls, revolved an astonishing plan of redeeming goodness: He assembled the whole hierarchy of angels, arch-angels, cherubins, and seraphins, around the august pavilion of imperial Deity. There, before all the astonished virtues, who struck with love and admiration, fell prostrate on their faces; the generous Son in the form of mercy and humility, interceded before the throne of divine justice for the lost sons of heaven! An awful silence took possession of the whole realm! Joy and immortal pleasure waited in solemn suspense, and heaven itself seemed to abate of its usual refulgence!

Oh most gracious parent and supreme governor of all universe, he said, if infinite justice demands that offenders should meet punishment, eternal mercy requires, that the least culpable, and those who repentant sue for mercy, should not feel an equal weight of misery, with the most atrocious and obstinate delinquents. Let me then, O heavenly Father, lighten the punishment of those I pity, by placing them in a state of easy probation, in a new created world; that if they become obedient, purifying and fitting themselves, they may be reinstated in their lost seats of happiness; electing one to be the representative of the whole body, by whom they must stand or fall. The gracious father assented with smiles that replenished all heaven with universal joy; and

all the angelic army uprore delighted, and tuning their golden viols, sang praises to the glory of mercy and goodness.

Immediately, in manifestation at once of unparalleled compassion and infinite power, the beatific Son bowing in filial affection to the supreme Father, and smiling graceful blessedness among the angelic stations, mounted his triumphal car; more remarkable for the elegance and beauty of its formation, than the blazing jewels of its composition. A thousand wings, lustrous with every beauteous colour, in every position, yet growing with corresponding symmetry, served either as rudders to guide, or sails to facilitate motion; while delicately mantling high over head, they formed a magnificent plummy canopy. Myriads of exulting angels of all orders and ranks, singing the praise of the victorious conqueror, whose terrific arm alone discomfited rebellious millions, and whose generosity could pardon its enemies; flew round the flaming chariot, which, like yon sun, was a sphere of light unapproachable. Not assistants, for the creator requires no aid, but as humble spectators the angels gave attendance, with banners flying, and trumpets sounding. On its golden hinges turning, the magnificent gates of heaven, wide opened spontaneous at the grand approach of the triumphant conqueror, now characteristically appearing in the most excellent grandeur of creator-god.

*The*



*The History of EARTH, and the Fall of MAN.*

Serenely sailing down the immensity of space, and pouring round the prodigious dark void, vast floods of light from his glorious person; at length stopping his bright car, he alighted; all the angels waiting at humble distance. Equal to the greatness of his vast design, he assumed an immense form; his glorious head reaching to heaven, he appeared of infinite extension, and his unbounded hands grasped, as it were, the utmost ends of space, if space be not endless. Then with his golden compasses outstretched, he drew a prodigious circle, which was to serve for a boundary to a solar system, and all its revolving planets: in the centre his prolific spirit brooding, he at once created out of nothing, igneous particles, and fiery atoms innumerable; which by his all-commanding fiat were gathered and rounded off into a vast, but regular sphere, and turning it round its axis, which he fixt unalterably in the centre, he said, let there be light, and there was light, for he gave it power to emit such rivers of beamy-light and prolific heat, as might both illumine and invigorate the various planetary worlds which constitute this system.

Pointing his compasses in the centre of the sun, he traced a smaller circle, as a road, around which the terrestrial globe was to perform a journey, regularly in a space you call  
a year

a year. Then his mighty spirit exerting its formative energy, produced out of nothing, wonderous congeries of chaotic principles, jarring elements, and contrary atoms discordant; such as earth, air, water, hot, cold, wet, dry, smooth, sharp and blunt, full of confusion. Those by his puissant word concordant he called together, that owned the same nature; and with his forming hands he moulded the terraqueous globe, firmly fixing on its rocky foundation the dry continent and islands, which he strengthened with excessive ribs of hills, and lofty mountains; seperating and draining off vast waters into reservoirs of oceans, which circulating through the huge rotundity in numberless rivers, dews, and rains, daily should replenish all nature. He likewise created an attendant planet, or world which serves to supply your deficiency of day, in the dark of dismal night; for revolving monthly round the attractive vortex, as this fugitive orb flies round its fiery centre, it throws back on earth the sunny favours, and receives in return on its own darkened side, bright Sol's reflected rays; a pleasing recompence for its attendance, the benefits being reciprocal.

I shall not speak of the other planets he formed, which in greater or lesser circles, journey round their common centre, that grand body of light, the stationary sun, because, to  
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this terrene sphere they are not of conspicuous utility.

Displaying before the immensity of his power, he now evinced the transcending elegance of his celestial fancy, in the works of delicate design, and beauteous execution, from the universality of his profound genius inimitably divine; as well in the grand taste of a sublime style, as in one diversified with the diffusive sweetness of simplicity! The barren face of earth became adorned, with all the soft graces of smiling beauty, and put on the flowery robes, and illustrious vestments of elegance, formed by the curious hand of its gracious maker. Whatever could conduce to ornament, or administer to use, was scattered by the hand of Generosity, in all the profusion of bounteous liberality! rich trees loaded with blossoms and lovely fruit, children of the Spring, nursed in the warm bosom of Summer, and perfected by ripening Autumn, provoked appetite, and invited the hand even of angels, as they swelled to maturity. Fragrant flowers blooming in all the lustre of contrasted colour, equally delicate in shape, that might adorn the fair temples of a cherubin with their matchless grace, sprung up through the immortal verdure of its turfy carpet, amidst flowering shrubs, or aside the liquid lapse of murmuring streams, that crept around gay meadows; or glittered brilliant through the green-wood shade!

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The gracious lord of existence, mindful now of his grand design in formation, and drawing nearer to a crisis, as exerting more magnific virtue, began the various production of living creatures, endowed with the nice feelings of sensation, whether they walk on earth, fly in air, or swim in water. The brute creation, more particularly formed of the grosser particles of dust, and a clay inferior, seemed at first animated clods, uprising their heads and half finished forms out of the earth; shouldering the cloddy obstructions, which crancled off their curling necks and brawny backs. Thus the floundering horse, struggling impatient from maternal clay, sprung up alert on his fore feet, half infixt, neighing vast astonishment; shaking from its slick coat the dusty uncognate atoms, and snuffing the wind as demanding the race. His vigorous eyes sparkled fiery; his gay countenance bespoke tempered valour, and his delicate form enforced the idea of strength and matchless velocity.

While generative Sol darted nutritive beams on the sandy shore, the great author of nature commanded animation; at which behold! variety of fishes rear gently their silver heads, soft peeping above the sands, rising into shape by degrees, coated with glittering silver, or speckled with crimson, burnished gold, and diamonds. The superfluous sands slid off their broad backs, and part-  
ing



ing their warm bed of birth at the impatience of motion, they scuttled in aukward haste to the glossy bosom of alluring waters, labouring with fin and tail; which in their proper element arrived, gave them inimitable grace in the easy celerity of active impulse.

High aloft on the leaf-budding branches of verdant trees, in commodious nests of various construction, at the wave of the Creator's hand were seen countless eggs, while the prolific sun, now instead of maternal heat, played on their crackling surfaces. Soon the speckled shells burst open, and reaking into life, with all their cumbersome load of birth-cloaths dropping moistly from their quilly sides, a strange variety of unshaped birds, moved their just indurated beaks in token of life. Then hardening by the warm ray, they fluttered into shape; and joyous, feeling themselves begin to live and be-fledged, they flapped their wings now grown distinct, painted with beauty and elegance. Shaking their lovely feathers, and expanding their plumage, they tried their infant flight, enjoying the glories of the sun, and the beauty of the surrounding scene; which inspiring them with natural gratitude, they essayed to sing; and soon the whole groves rang grateful with artless songs of harmonious praise to their beneficent creator. Thus far of inferior forms.

But let it not startle uninstructed imagination, if I declare that these terrestrial vehicles,

are animated with the degraded spirits. Reason may revolt and say, it is too mean for such lofty angels, and has the appearance of ridicule; that they bear no remembrance of their former state; that their faculties are extremely contracted, carrying very little appearance of rationality, and seeming almost to act mechanically. But I answer that the sublime spirit, confined within carnal vehicles, can only act organically; for you find among men who enjoy superior faculties, if by any accident their organs, more immediate to cogitation, are impaired, they dwindle below brutes in stupidity. But even this degradation of aspiring vanity and self-love, beheld for its utility by angelic beings, is more eligible than the free exercise of great intellectual powers, that can only reflect the most tormenting pangs of mental preception. Thus then the great Creator, like endless light, expanding his visibility, was instantaneous in the deep dungeon of fallen spirits; the chief of whom, in spite of himself, trembled at his terrific appearance.

Divinely selecting those who were fitted by penitence, and rendered objects of heavenly grace, from the fiercely reprobate; softening the severity of his countenance, he imparted his gracious intention, of delivering them from the misery into which their disobedience had involved them; declaring a new world was built for their reception,  
which

which though short of celestial glory, yet in comparison to the state in which they were so deeply plunged, would prove a paradise of pleasure. But the condition of their reception was, that if he, who chosen their representative for that happy state, became disobedient again, he should entail upon their whole race, the most exquisite sufferings. But they acquiesced with joy, falling prostrate on their faces in grateful adoration, for such divine manifestations of generous goodness. Then chusing those who were more immediately fitted by penitence, he gave them the lethean draught of forgetfulness; and bringing them towards the terrene globe, immersed them in the lower creation, to sport in their proper portions of delight, and wait for the trial of their representative.

As in trine consultation the omnipresent Father said, let us make man; and thus due preparation being made for the grand reception of earth's imperial emperor; then the Lord God out of dust made the human form, which he graced with peculiar beauty; and breathing into his organs the breath of life, he was formed in the image of his Creator; that is, he gave the great representative of the whole race, which was chosen from among his brethren, the fallen angels, for the purpose of probation; a happy vehicle, so fortunately organized, that he had the privilege of exerting intellectual powers, in a manner

analogous to the spiritual pre-eminence of angelic rationality; though cloged and impeded in operation: for reason was weakened, and a super-added force added to passions, by the prevalence of carnal appetite, and fleshy desires, through the meditation of bodily organs. From the side of the first man, who was named Adam, his fair wife Eve was modeled. Their gracious lord inspiring them with intuitive knowledge, blest and gave them the pleasure of a most beautiful paradise, he had created for their peculiar enjoyment. But as the grand test of obedience, and a small acknowledgment of their Creator's sovereignty, he only interdicted the fruit of one tree, the tree of life; Oh what could be an easier trial! declaring to Adam, in a tone of magisterial severity, that the moment he dared to eat the dire forbidden fruit, he and all his posterity should be subject to death, and divine displeasure: then left him to enjoyment, after he had delivered a body of laws, and imprinted on his very nature a system of morality.

Now filial Deity having perfected the wondrous work of Creation, preservative of what he had made, he left a variety of guardian angels, and gave them peculiar charge of the human-pair, to intermit no watch, as they would be assaulted by the arch enemy of God. Then bestowing divine blessing on the creatures of his amity, he bade them increase and multiply,



multiply, smiling ineffable graciousness; as beholding all his works in one point of view, he saw and pronounced them good. All paradise, the sweet selected habitation of earth's lord, felt impregnated the vital benediction. Delightful flowerets and blooming shrubberies, as if invigorated with the blessing, uprose, offering the incense of praise in the most delicate fragrance. The sun itself beamed forth a lustre more efficacious; the shades grew more verdant; more serene the soft ambient air. The clustering grape, the blushing peach, the rich pine-apple; and every fruit of delicious flavour, ripened to maturity: and all nature imprest with the sweet blessing of their kind maker, gave acknowledgement in joyous exultations. Then perceiving all creation accord to the divine archetype of designation, filial Deity mounting his glorious car, ascended to heaven, amidst faithful bands of volant angels surrounding his lofty chariot; pouring forth to the dulcet harp of gladness with seraphic elevation, the song of triumph, joy, and rapture, for the glorious display of goodness and exertion of power: while listening worlds re-echoed back their joyous grand loud sounding acclamations!

The first time that Adam beheld fair lovely Eve, was the morning after her subduction from his side. Awakened early by the joyous songs of merry birds, he arose with the rising sun refreshed, and his heart expanding with joy

joy and gratitude, he returned thanks to the author of blessings, and requested a continuation of divine regard. Then led by a divine impulse, he directed his steps along the flowery margin of a lucid stream. Casting a side-long eye towards his left, a bloomy arbour of over-arching amaranths, inmixt with ruby roses, invited to soft repose; and retiring with backward steps he sought the fragrant shade. But how was he struck, when he first beheld recumbent on a flowery couch, beauteous Eve asleep. Her blooming cheek delicately rested on her ivory arm, which curved on the soft pillow of a violet bank gently raised; while her jetty locks curled in graceful ringlets on her snowy bosom, the marbled throne of beauty! He softly leaned over her enchanting form with unutterable rapture; and fondly gazing, examined the delicate symmetry of her fine features, much admiring the heaven of sweetness, which smiled on her ruby lips. Fearing to disturb her repose he gazed with wonder; till unable to forbear, he stole a kiss; at which awakened, and obeying the first emotions of surprise, she started up and fled down the arbour, swift as the timid doe; but more out of virgin modesty, than from the force of terror; and as she fled she cast delighted a backward view, as if she invited pursuit. Absorbed in new-born love, he paused awhile as thunder struck; then starting, followed to woo her  
com-

compliance; but he lost her as she turned round the thickset windings of a shrubby wilderness. He wandered through various rural avenues, that led to little valleys and verdant hillocks, whitened with grazing flocks; unmindful of their beauty, and deploring his misfortune.

At length turning short, he entered a beautiful spot in the centre of the thicket, whose circular skirts rising up in different shades, and odoriferous blossoms, afforded a delicious covert; while the soft zephyrs sighed through the trees above, a translucent fountain answered below in gentle murmurs, prattling as it slid along the flower-enameled carpet refreshing. Just as he turned short in the entrance, his lovely Eve turned short, and meeting they stopped, gazing enamoured, forcibly struck with the ardour and zeal of a passion, such as sometimes in the world, actuates two young persons, who at first sight fall violently in love with each other. Short was their pause; for strongly attracted by mutual love, they flew into each others arms in obedience to the heavenly impulse, which then was not as now, beset with the formalities of restraint.

Oh my love, my life, he cried, thou art she after whom my soul has been longing, as the dappled roe-buck pants after the cool refreshing fountains. Thou art my dear bride, and as such, before all the powers above I acknowledge thee. So saying he took her by  
the

the fair hand, his other round her taper waist. She coyly yielding, as willing to be conquered, gently struggled, yet suffered the ardent youth to lead her, blushing timorous modesty, within the connubial pavilion of tender love and soft desire; before which the level lawns outspread delicious. But conscious of the sanctity of connubial decorum, she stopped before the holy arbour, ritually assented to his declaration, and in the purity of her unpoluted heart, she praised her Maker, for thus giving to her happiness this ultimate finish of perfection. All that nature could make delectable in the assembly<sup>2d</sup> of fragrant shrubs, and gay blooming flowers, and the graceful festoons of floscular elegancies, ever delightful to the refinements of taste; were conspicuous in the marriage bower: and the sacred shade within was lined with the velvet of flowers, whose pressure yielded the most refreshing perfume. The angelic guardians around, tuned their sweetest harps, divinely preluding to supernal symphonies; to which joining heavenly voices, they sang their epithalamium in seraphic strains and poetic diction, the most rapturous and enchanting.

*Apostrophe to conjugal Love.*

To thee, O tender Love! Sweet source of bliss!  
 Whence flow the finest feelings of delight;  
 Smit with thy charms I pay the tribut'ry verse.  
 When Sensibility prepares two hearts,

Where



Where self-love's tendrils twine no more, and  
makes

The generous care to please reciprocal :  
How soon the human heart by thee refin'd,  
With soft sensations of benevolence,  
Grows nobly delicate in godlike goodness !  
Thou then can'st smooth the rugged paths of life,  
Lighten misfortune of its cumb'rous load,  
Or sweeten disappointment's bitter cup ;  
Ward off the gauling darts of adverse fate ;  
Assuage the pangs of sharp disease, and yield  
The tortur'd soul a sweet serenity.  
Yes thou alone true relish giv'st to mirth ;  
Mak'st empty pleasure lasting and sincere,  
And happiness to bloom unfading joy ;  
'Till bliss exalted seems angelic transport.  
If mortal love can thus the soul refine,  
How grand must be that love whose object is  
divine ?

Now the proud infernal prince of hell's  
domains being informed by his scouts of the  
world's creation, the birth of man, and the  
fatal covenant of obedience on which depend-  
ed all their happiness; it being out of his will  
to do good, he eagerly followed the bent of  
his inclination to perform evil; while self-ad-  
miring pride, implacable hatred, and fierce  
revenge against the most high, were the ruling  
springs of his mighty soul. Thus stimulated  
by the latter so permitted, he fiercely broke  
through his wretched dungeon, at the head of  
a ferocious army of malevolent spirits, fit to  
perform the work he loved to command.  
Rushing furious on full wing, his first fond

hope was to have stormed the new world, by force of arms, and hurled universal destruction throughout the system; but that he soon found impracticable, driven far away by the terrible appearance of warlike Michael. Then trusting to the subtilty of craft, the subdolous ruinator hoped to bring that misery on man by cunning which he could not by force; for man became the object of the arrows of his spite, from the desire he had of wounding through his sides the great creator.

Accordingly essaying various methods of imposition, in which he was repulsed by the vigilency of the cherubic bands, he at length assumed the beauteous form of a serpent, whose bright eyes shone like diamonds. Crowned with a tuft of burnished gold, his well shaped form was variegated with shades of velvet, while his rich wings be-dropped with crimson and spangling silver, shone gayly to the trembling sun. Skulking through deep shades, where he practised the arts of viperous deception, at length to his wish he beheld fair Eve alone, by chance, near the fatal tree, whom, losing no time, he accosted; his heart beating with the presage of direful success. Bowing with false submissions before her eyes, which were struck by the finery of his exterior appearance, he flew to the fatal tree, plucked the forbidden fruit, and eat it greedily. See fair Eve, he cried, the happy effect of this divine apple! a brute before; it has made

made me rational, and given me to speak; eat thou and it will change thy nature to goddesses. You say it is forbidden. But why? because envy withholds the celestial fruit, lest no more a slave you become divine, and equal to the gods above! He reached down a loaded bough; vanity and self-love making her ambitious. She listened, believed, and rejecting heaven; she plucked and ate the forbidden fruit to her ruination.

Adam impatient of his lovely consort's absence, who accidentally was lost in unbrageous flowerets, his fond heart presaging some fatal danger, he sought her full of tender anxiety through the groves. But how was he astonished when coming to a long vista, he beheld the object of his soul's regard, in act plucking the interdicted fruit! In an agony of terror, before her thirsty lips, impatient to taste the poison of death, had touched the ruinous apple, conscious of her dire intent, he ran; he flew; he called aloud, stop, stop thy rash hand O Eve! But eager ambition blinding her eyes, and closing her ears, she was deaf to his prayers; and ere with panting haste he could reach her, she ate with anxious greediness the forbidden fruit! all the while beheld by her agonized spouse. Distracted at the horrific deed now completed, his trembling knees smote together, and denied to bear him further; his nerves relaxed, and the very blood curdled in his veins!

He essayed to say, Oh my God, how art thou ruined? but his voice failed him, while his lips trembled with the faltering accents; and unable to bear his sorrow, he tumbled groaning upon the earth! Then came Eve holding in her hand a beauteous branch to her astonished husband Adam, practising all the arts of fond endearment: in the language of love so hard to withstand, she over persuaded him; and regarding the creature more than the Creator, he likewise ate the forbidden fruit, the fatal origin of evil! Yet so easy a test of duty!

Immediately dreadful Misery and horrid Death took possession of earth, who to its very centre trembled at their direful footsteps. Satan flew off triumphantly exulting in his proper shape, over the guardian angels, who made their way towards heaven, and left earth: while Adam and Eve gave themselves up to inordinate sensuality. What a change!

Mean time against earth, and man its lord, the diabolical band began to exercise their fury, in their new gained domains aerial, the willing executioners of divine permission. They vainly hoped, that as they had brought such easy ruin on the wretched pair, for whom the world was formed, they could with equal facility destroy the system. All hell broke loose, and joined outrageous assistance; and fiercely rushing to the southern pole, they shoved with all their might, and pushed.

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pushed indeed the ponderous globe off its centre, disturbed its axis, and changed its position; by which the sun's all chearing heat, with oblique ray, grew sickly faint towards the extremities, deserting them to the severe tyranny of excessive frost, while he burnt the centre with torrid fire. This they effected, but could not answer the demands of despair and malice, who fired them to dash prodigious worlds against worlds, and hurl the broken fragments against the battlements of heaven; to storm it with the destruction of its own work, to toss the burning sun amidst the faithful angels, and involve all universe in horrible confusion; though themselves became utterly confounded in the universal desolation! So terrific is wickedness when stung by malice and despair.

Finding they had not power to destroy, but to mar, spoil, and confound, they sowed the rank weeds of moral evil deep in the human heart, debilitating the rational faculty, infusing violent propensities, and giving superadded force to the passions and appetites; instilling a violent thirst for voluptuous sensuality; but making the heart cold to the sanctity of holiness, averse to virtue, and extremely backward to goodness; weak in temptation; strong in selfishness!

Mean time, beholding from his radiant throne the lapse of Adam, in whose destruction were involved his whole race; and that  
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the malevolence of Satan had rendered almost ineffectual the gracious intention of divine goodness; the glorious son, amidst the throng of circling cherubins, in whose countenances were painted the solemn gravity of suspense and pity, for the lost sons of earth; approached the awful pavilion of the most high God. Behold, he said, O just and gracious Father, the devastation brought on the terrestrial planet, and man its deputed lord; by the malice of the infernals, who aimed the daring blow at thee Oh God. Deplorable indeed is the punishment which Adam has incurred! his misfortune now as well as his crime. There remains but one method to defeat the cruel purpose of wickedness, to save the offenders, and satisfy infinite justice; and that is, for some great personage in their stead to offer up himself! So saying he cast around his all-beholding eyes. The blest inhabitants hid with mantling wings their faces, bending their eyes down on heaven's starry pavement, awed with silent expectation; but none had the courage, or generosity, to stand forth the champion of devoted man. A wondrous pause ensued throughout all heaven!—Then filial Deity, shining bright in all the grace of ineffable mercy, said, Oh heavenly Father, I offer up myself to satisfy justice, and to save degraded man from the punishment due to disobedience! I will become incarnate, set man a perfect example, deliver a  
pure

pure religion, and compleat my sufferings by dying on the cross, that man may live and regain immortal felicity. At that, an awful sound proceeding from the august pavilion, said, O beloved son in whom I am well pleased, be thy sacrifice accepted, the benefit of which let those alone receive, who in thee place their confidence, and who obey thy commandments!

If the seraphims were astonished at the almighty Son's power, in the expulsion of rebellious angels, how were they struck at the amazing grandeur of his unparalleled humility and mercy! Never before felt heaven such jubilee. All the sons of god shouted for joy, they sang to their melodious viols, immortal praises to the god of mercy; and all universe gave attestation of uncommon bliss for the redemption of mankind. For all the inhabitants of millions of worlds, who enjoy the godlike gift of free will, without which existence is tasteless, as well as angels, arch-angels, thrones, dominations, principalities, virtues, powers, cherubins, and seraphims, were to become spectators of the stupendous sacrifice; which would imprint deeply, on their very natures, in indelible characters, powerful ideas of the turpitude of disobedience, of such an eternal efficacy as to deter them from offence, by manifesting that infinite justice spared not even his righteous son, when he took upon him the sins of disobedience: and there-

therefore their offences after that could find no pardon, but they would be condemned to suffer unremitting misery! supposing it possible after this they could offend.

*Induction to a State of probationary Discipline.*

Gabriel was dispatched to the garden of Eden, the once happy paradise of Adam and Eve, now fading from its pristine glory, to dispossess the wretched delinquents; and banish them from the seats of happiness to the fields of woeful probation. When he beheld them at distance, lying on the damp earth, rudely cloathed with broad leaves; for they had gained a painful sense of shame, were torn by violent passions, and were lamenting their folly; he cried to himself, Ah how lost! how fallen! Adam beheld the grand archangel posting down a condensed sun-beam, with the fear of astonishment, not as before with love and veneration; for they read their doom in his majestic air. The sweetness of his countenance was corrected with the firmness of fortitude. In warlike habiliments, while rich plumage nodded over his crest, he held his robe succinct, his right hand bearing a silver spear glowing fire, while his left side sustained a flaming sword. Dark clouds spread over the face of heaven. The sun shrunk behind a black veil, and deep thunders muttered at a distance.



The hapless pair uprose respectful when he alighted with agile rebound, furling his beautiful wings. On the august approach of his presence, they prostrated themselves at his feet, submissive in all humility. Their hearts were too full to speak, and touched with deep remorse; they watered his golden sandals with their tears. Arise, he said, mild of voice, and lifted them erect, arise Oh unfortunate pair, for know, not totally rejected of heaven you are banished from Paradise. The earth is curst for your sakes, you must earn your bread by the sweat of your brow; the woman suffering in child birth; and you with all your posterity must die! Yet the serpent's head by your seed shall be bruised, from which shall spring a redeemer. And if you prove faithful to virtue, be assured you shall by him regain lost happiness.

So saying he drew his flaming sword, which blazed intollerable day, and secluding all retreat, he directed them to the gates of Eden, which now opened wide as of set purpose, to disembugue them into the vale of misery, and a world of woe! Before they quitted the regions of their birth, for which they bore a natural affection, and where they had so often tasted such exquisite delight; they fondly turned, and lingered, to take a last farewell; casting their watery eyes wishfully around, while to their bitter tears, and woeful lamentations, drooping Paradise itself

seemed to sympathize, through its grove shades, in responsive sighs, and gentle murmurs. At length urged by the fiery lightening of Gabriel's flaming sword, they pass the high bridge of Eden, entering the new world: when straight the three fold brazen gates of Paradise closed against them, and as they shut, it was as the noise of thunder, which reduplicated by the hills, founded tremendous. A thick mist uprising condensed, covered the skirts of Paradise, and concealed them from mortal eyes for ever. So fatal is criminal indulgence!

Adam and his fair partner, who now clung fondly to her protector's arm, wiping away their tears, terrified in looking back, proceeded forward; cheered by the soft whispering of gentle hope, that fast friend to human nature. They came to a pleasant valley, which though in comparison of Paradise was rude and dismal, yet it had its comforts, affording a good stream to quench thirst; various trees loaded with fruit to satisfy hunger, and a cave for shelter and repose.

There Adam and Eve took up their habitation, and became the common parents of mankind; the fruit of whose loins replenished the whole earth, from whom descended mighty kings, as well as clowns: for you are all brethren, and as such the love you bear yourselves, you ought in some portion to confer on your relatives.

*The Ingression of natural and moral Evils.*

Now the infernal minister of wickedness having crowned himself with vile success, obtained the dominion of air, at once to punish the disobedient, and to fill up to the brim the measure of his own iniquities. Triumphant among his bad compeers, he was universally elected their sovereign, under a canopy of black thunder-clouds, tinged with glowing colours, from the sun's refracted rays. The cruel prince of air began his reign, by introducing the unfeeling power of Property, the fire of Poverty and Tyranny, through whose despotism the sons of earth were to suffer innumerable evils, and go through the several trials of probation; for the prelapsary state was founded on the basis of universal equality. In that dear jubilant station, there would have been no princely lords, no mortal gods, whose sacred presence must be worshipped with prostrate adoration; to whose single and selfish happiness, a million of fellow-creatures must toil, labour, sweat, and be for ever slaves. Then the all fertile bosom of earth, yielding spontaneous plenty for use and ornament, guarded from inclement seasons, and exuberant in pleasure, would have been the delightful habitation of happiness. No horrid front of pain infecting evil, of whatsoever kind, to torment the body: no false deluding Vice to pollute the mind,

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would have dared to approach the happy mansions; nor more direful Death, that terrific king of horrors, who now rides singly triumphant in his sable chariot over all mankind; whose inevitable javelin, no innocence however spotless, no goodness however exemplary, nor poverty however humble, can escape! Death laughs at riches, despises beauty, and under foot tramples emperors.

Lucifer, after finding a strong propensity in the human heart towards indulgence, exalted Temptation to regal honour, giving him power as his best friend, infinitely to multiply his emissaries; and to assume the sweetness of pleasure, in his empty promises of delight; or the terror of pain, to fright those that despise his invitations; and gave him to co-operate with polluted Vice against mankind, and be perpetual enemies to spotless Virtue.

Next in his dire kingdom, he established the province of disease, over which he placed as vice-roy, tormenting Pain, cunning to invent a thousand excruciating torments, and sharp agonizing pangs to afflict unhappy mortals. Soul-depressing Sorrow, heart-grinding Remorse, never-to-be-pacified Despair, and a thousand other mental miseries he ordered to lacerate the soul, giving to ever-wakeful Conscience the most piercing scourges. And to preside over, and mangle the body, without number he sent dire disorders; such as lingering



ing Consumption, swiftly-impetuous Apoplexy, nerve-grinding Stone, demoniac Phrenzy, and Madness unhinging Reason, sword-jobbing Pleurisy, rack-torturing Gout, limb-shivering Ague, and blood-inflaming Fever; and many others, with ever-trembling Palsy, who in the struggle between Life and Death, gives up the patient half to one, and half to the other: reserving for his own feast of cruelty, to scatter blue pestilence, to hurl prodigious thunder, and bury cities in dreadful earthquakes, in which the arch fiend shines pre-eminent of malice, as well as foremost to debase human nature, by cultivating the seeds of moral evil in the human soul!

First he deeply inrooted, and firmly twined its tendrils round the heart, narrow mean Self-love, dead to the tender feelings of sensibility; whence springs a total disregard to every thing generous. Strengthening self-contracted inordinacies of soul, he infused new passions, or gave them super-added avidity. Thus over-bearing Pride, ill-for-good-returning Ingratitude, blood-thirsty Revenge, self-tormenting Envy, swiftly-furious Anger, coolly-deliberate Spite, mean self-afflicting Avarice, giddily-profusive Prodigality, insatiate all-grasping Ambition, ease-loving Indolence, ostentatious Vanity, heart-gnawing Jealousy, voluptuous Gluttony, wine-bibbing Drunkenness, and soul-polluting Lust, were the powers and springs his own hands forged, intellectually

lectually to move the will of mankind. But what most peculiarly held his empire over the heart, was a fatal inclination to forbidden joys, which he strove to render insuperable.

Then flying with the speed of alacrity to his own stupendous magazine of natural evils, with a chosen band, he wrenched the seven-fold barricade of durable brass; and dragging the ponderous gates on their shrieking hinges, they opened hoarse as the fall of vast torrents resounding from massy rocks. Thence tearing out vast seminal stores of noxious weeds innumerable, they, with a sower's hand wide spreading, gave them to the buxom air; which wafting them over the broad nutritive bosom of earth, easily impregnated; soft showers fixed their roots, and they can never be exterminated. So malice fulfilled the curse of justice!

Next ferocious, like black eagles, greedy of destruction, they bore the seminal principles of nitrous coldness, and shivering frost, and stormy winds tempestive: fixing them chiefly at the arctic pole, Satan gave his demons to preside over their nature; some he commissioned round the equator, to hurl back the cooling breeze, that his evil intentions should not turn out good to man, and disperse excessive heats, to make the sun's rays dart downwards perpendicularly intolerable, to parch Nature with sultry blasts, and breed prodigious swarms of flies; give poison to  
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the serpent's tooth; cruelty, ferocity, blood-thirstiness, inevitable strength, agility, and omnipotent power to a variety of savage beasts, who, instead of owning man's sovereignty, shall defy him to his destruction.

Thus the northern demons urge fiercely on vast clouds big with black tempests, irresistible storms and hurricanes, earth-shaking thunders, and man-destroying lightening. They manacle whole rivers with frost's inexorable chains, stiffen into ice the running stream, and bridge up vast canals with glassy pavements, safely to bear the waggon's groaning load, where once a feather's weight sunk. They sift the pattering hail, and pick the feathery snow, spreading the fields as with a cold white sheet, freezing with such severity as nearly to congeal the very blood, slow lingering in its frozen veins.

Those demons presiding over meteors, rushed in the midst of unfathomable ocean, and with enormous wheels and vast machines, whirling with excess of velocity, spun up the watery particles into thin extensive sheets of vapoury mists. Drawing curling fillaments, and tangling them into the bulging bosoms of fleecy clouds, which deeply condensed, they syphon-wise, sucked up at prodigious draughts half ocean; who sunk beneath its banks, though to his aid vast river's flowed. When the cloud's capacious belly was saturated, gradually its vast contents they discharged

charged incessant, week after week, deluging whole nations, whose flood drawing off, overflowed still other kingdoms; bearing indeed fat slimy manure, which the sun's excessive heat luckily drying produced fecundity amidst the sterile sands of barrenness. Some of the fiends indefatigable in enmity, to render earth as little habitable, and commodious to man as possible, planted wide spreading forests, peopled with savage beasts, declared foes to man; or hoisted up extensive chains of lofty mountains, taller than the clouds; deep spreading over earth's better part encroaching seas, and vast oceans, that as a girdle surround the sublunar globe, filled with amazing monsters, all which indeed serve to exercise man's industry, and to fill up the measure of his laborious anxiety.

Not but some themselves suffered the evils themselves had wrought, for various devils were incarnated for the greater probation of mankind. Bursting the bandage of childhood, which bound them down from evil in spite of their bad nature, when, they had liberty of action, and freedom of will, they betrayed their origin by their ferocious hatred of goodness and virtue, and love of vice and wickedness; from which to deter them, present punishment became effectless, and futurity unavailable. These reprobated demi-devils, enjoyed an execrable satisfaction in rendering mankind miserable; and in tempt-  
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ing others, to be as vilely wicked as themselves. Some becoming priests, cut up their enemies, mangling their limbs with cruelly invented tortures, and felt delight in the human sacrifices offered to diabolic idols. Hence the Chinese dragon, to whose hideous image they prostrate, and suppose him in the air, on the water, and upon towering rocks: so direful is superstition! Others, to punish wicked nations, were set over them supreme tyrants, carrying desolation and horrid misery triumphant over half the globe; eradicating cities, exterminating whole nations, and destroying millions of their own people, till they had glutted Vengeance! Here Zangola desisted.

Thus, Oh my friends, rejoined the hermit, agreeable to your curiosity, I have given you a faithful account, specifying the origin of natural and moral evil; as delivered by the graceful lips of my noble friend: which coinciding with the sacred writings, bears suitability to the goodness of the great creator. But in the subsequent detail historic, be not shocked, when more plainly enumerating the transmigration of the soul, I speak a mere Bonze, as if horses or worms had pre-existed; for be assured the antient opinion is highly consonant, to a reason enlightened by a divine Revelation, and the most elaborate philosophy. For all confess that matter, however delicately modified, cannot think and remember; but brutes think and remember, therefore brutes have

within them something superior to matter, which is spirit; and if a spirit why mortal? Skeptics indeed will affect to doubt the existence of Deity, and therefore of all spirit. Again, it is the nature of perfect goodness to make all its creatures as happy as is agreeable to their rank in existence, and never on any account to chastise unoffending innocence, or lay it open to a state of misery. Horses for instance, endowed with the acutely feeling nerve of sensibility, often go through the most agonizing scenes of misery: yet they as brutes, are perfectly innocent. Why then do they suffer? Existence to many is a burthen, not a benefit! So far from being necessary to the being of community, horses were utterly unknown to the vast nations of Mexico, till they were trampled to death by the management beat into them by their noble masters! Therefore in a prior state they must have offended.

Again, in favour of pre-existence, figure to yourselves a common prostitute of Europe, who earns her very bread by debauching youth, and trapaning husbands from their families; who commits various acts of theft, and at last making up the number of her crimes by murder, is publicly executed. Such a one you naturally abhor, and almost easily consign to a dreadful futurity. But if we scrutinize, with the coolness of just impartiality, the causes of her actions, she deserves, debased as she is, our utmost pity. Born of  
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wicked parents she might have been sold, or very early initiated in the mysteries of Vice: and never, or poorly, instructed in the lessons of Virtue. With a pretty person, and high passions soon debauched, there was no way left open for her to get a livelihood but by prostitution. Temptations to theft might be given by her own poverty, with the drunken folly of her clients: The ill usage of a brutal one, might have thrown her into a passion used to indulgence; and heated by liquor, till in the rage of desperation, partly defensive, she dared to stab her provoker. What young being like this, thrown into such insuperable temptations could be innocent! This account at least must excite humility in every exalted station, if it does not plainly prove she was sent here for correction, and in another state had offended. However, to-morrow when we meet again, in order to elucidate this theme abstruse, I will succinctly relate the metempsychosis of my princely friend Zangola, and give you the conclusion of his heavenly visit. So saying the friends, as inclination led them, retired down the crumbling mountain to the rural hermitage; where soft repose had laid the pillow of Tranquility, and gentle sleep received them on its downy couch.

When rosy-fingered morn, shaking off the misty mantle of obscure night, arose with unclouded serenity; and opened by degrees the golden gates of dawning light, the king of day came forth in his purple robes, with

calm dignity; whom the friends hailed as they reached the mountain's dewy top, and being seated under the verdant Tea's fragrant shade, thus began the imaginative moralist.

*The first Transmigration of Prince ZANGOLA.*

*The History of a WORM.*

Here paused my angelic prince, walking with elegant dignity, amidst the oblique palms and clustering coco, as if to give me time to recruit my tired attention; but his words, sweeter than the honey-comb, and more melodious than the softest philomel, was so charming to my ears, that I grieved the music of his voice sounded no more through the still serene, fearful he would no more renew the soul-enchancing subject. At length he thus proceeded, smiling with angelic urbanity. The stream seemed to stop attentive; the birds were silent; hushed were the winds, and all nature appeared to listen regardful!

You have been told what part I acted in this direful rebellion, against the most beneficent king of kings; it now remains, he said, to acquaint you of the probationary punishment I underwent, in consequence of my disobedience; by which you will learn, that the more exalted beings, and the greatest personages when culpable, meet the sharpest scourge of correction.

After being banished from the happy realms of immortal felicity, it is past the power of  
utterance



utterance to declare the mental misery I underwent, by recollecting the delights my folly lost, and comparing them to the wretchedness by which I was surrounded. This brought on the contrition of sorrow for what I had done, with a cherished desire of amendment; by which I became an object of divine regard. Thus I was elected or numbered among those whom alone the great propitiator could redeem, could save, and restore.

By the lapse of our representative, we, to expiate our failings, were to go through a course of gentle sufferings, in comparison of what we then felt, and what our offences demanded, before we could be admitted to our probationary state; the tenour of which is, after a variety of transmutations from that wonderful transiency of spirit towards matter; the soul finds admission into human form; is endowed again with fatal free will; its contracted capacities enlarged; has the laws of right and wrong deeply imprinted; becomes a moral agent, and answerable for its actions. Passing through these stations, till it is purified by its choice of and adhesion to virtue, it is then enlisted under the Christian banner; and according as it proves obedient to its divine captain, it meets a final designation.

You will be surprized when I tell you, that the first terrene vehicle into which I was obtruded, was a worm! varying from its first seminal principle into form, buried in earth's

earth's gloomy enclosure! and whose contracted organism was totally obtusefactive of mental powers! What a degradation! which indeed appears ridiculous; but what more proper to punish proud ambition? Image to yourself a being ~~best~~ with a beauteous form, endowed with immense intellectuality, enjoying happiness in perfection, and making wide excursions into space; who forfeiting its station by transgression, is confined in such a little dark prison as a worm! Yet even that is more eligible than to be at large, floating along oceans of misery, with mental faculties only extensive to make wretchedness more extensive. After I had performed the few functions of vermicular life, I screwed myself a passage through the porous mold, softened by rain, in order to find a female companion, for under earth living solitary, we act our loves above ground: a careless horse trod on my extremity, at which I wreathed myself round a thorny bramble, and was a whole day expiring, scorched up by wind and sun, in torments as sharp as those of a dying rhinoceros. What more is the life of man, compared to eternity?

When the last link of the chain gave way, which fettered my spirit to its mortal prison, I gained my liberty; and shot away like light through the cloudy regions, conducted to the guardian angel who presided over the metempsychosis of fallen angels. Aloft on his azure throne,

throne, in his ærial palace-camp, which the Luciferian powers cannot demolish; a hated check on their empire; he received me graciously, and thus he spoke: the great Supreme has invested me, to direct the transmigratory punishment of fallen angels, and know, Oh favoured spirit, that ~~thy soul, not~~ being blackly stained with so deep a dye of guilt, as many among the fallen, thou art permitted to make selection of that test of obedience, which you shall imagine to be most eligible. But let this be deeply imprinted on your mind: an indulgence to worldly pleasures, and carnal delights, to which inclination strongly prompts, instead of defecating, will add to the impurity of your soul, protract the trial, sharpen the punishment, and may at length render it unfit for redintegration. Nay sensuality, and worldly gratifications, becoming habitual by obstinate indulgence; so absolutely contaminate, corrupt, and vitiate, the divine principle of man, that it becomes so irrecoverably lost, as to be only fit for the society of evil beings. While forbearance on the other hand has a contrary effect. She indeed is Virtue herself, the parents of Goodness; who teaching the heart to refrain the gilded baits, and sweet allurements of temptation, disengages it from the world's hold; and keeping it free from groveling meaness, gives the mind a noble elevation. It is by despising the gratification of lower faculties,

faculties, and taking delight in the exercise of intellectual powers, flying Vice, following Virtue, and loving Goodness; that the soul is purified, not only from the guilt of the pre-existent lapse, but its fresh contracted mundane faults, and confiding in a Redeemer, becomes by the holy spirit a new creature. Thus renovated, it is qualified to regain and enjoy the forfeited mansions of ever-flowing pleasure; and know that angels bend down, and view with admiration a human creature, who surrounded with temptations, and prone to indulgence, is nobly struggling in the conflict, to preserve his integrity to the great Creator: but weep over the fall of deluded weakness, giving up oceans of bliss for a cup of pleasure that is always dashed with bitterness.

But in order to make an adequate judgment, you shall behold the various stations of life. So saying he took me in his invisible chariot. We flew down the nether globe, and mixed among the multitudes of mortals, who then replenished the world with variety of nations. In our devious peregrination, my heavenly guide was silent, making no remarks; he had said sufficiently to arm my heart, and left me to my own observations. Disgusted with the lot of the laborious, I reviewed that rural station in which happy shepherds practising kind offices, were removed from the paths of soft temptation, in the kind bosom of content;



tent; enlarging their capacities with philosophy, and paying a due adoration to the creator; these I indeed reviewed with complacency. But struck with the power and splendour of an eastern monarch on his throne, his happy lot made the deepest impression in my soul, while my original pride, vanity and ambition, uprising revived, determined my choice, and I cried in an ecstasy of desire, Oh princely guardian, I chuse to be an oriental sovereign! To which he replied, with the smile of contempt---Then be an eastern monarch! But know you have multiplied your duty, and the temptations to transgression; adding to the severity of penalty. Few human creatures are fit to be monarchs!

No more he said, but transporting me to the famous court of Africa, he gave me the lethean draught of forgetfulness; and divesting me of my light ethereal vehicle, he made me animate the male fetus of the queen, that moment arriving to pregnancy. After a long and dark imprisonment, where I was employed in perfecting my little body, I saw the precious light, saluted heir to the king of Egypt; for you are not to imagine, a soul is created every time the embryo quickens to the breath of life; an assertion which would be derogatory of the supreme being.

*The Second TRANSMIGRATION.*

*Prince Zangola's first probationary State. The History of an Eastern Monarch. The Character of Ambition.*

A peasant's child more agreeably enjoys itself in native freedom, rolling about a village green, half naked, with its little crust, playful in the sunny beam, and sweetened by the flowing breeze, than the noble infant imprisoned in close apartments, bound all over with silken fetters, by ill-judging fondness. For my part I wanted not care enough to render my little life very irksome, but the relief of night, saved me, by releasing my limbs to laughing liberty, and giving the pleasing repose of sleep.

As I grew up, the seeds of vanity were fostered in my young heart, by my parents giving into my love of finery, extolling my person, and praising my actions: my pride was nourished and cultivated, in aggravating my power, by their commanding my slaves to pay implicit obedience to all my silly orders. This was enough to ruin the best nature. As I was an only child of a pair, who long deplored the want of children, of course I was the darling object of their fond affection: but being heir to a kingdom, the most renowned for science, every wish met indulgence, and every desire gave birth to new ones in the fruition of Gratification. I was  
never

never suffered to abstain from the humoursome dictates of fancy. A fallacious will growing every moment capricious, became a standing law of action, to rule which my passions and appetites, seperate or in conjunction, usurped the authority of Reason in the weakness of infancy; gaining then a force so insuperable, that when Reason, arriving near maturity, demanded its native right; they condescended at last to allow the name of prince, to what they gave but a trifling share of power: and forced it often to give sanction to their imperious despotism.

Thus the fondness of over kind affection, by keeping me from the useful, though severe documents of abstinence; and withholding my steps from the wholesome school of Virtue, that I should enjoy pleasure, and be exempt from pain, not the lot of any mortal; plunged me into real misery, and rendered me a detested monster! So indulgence betrays where most she fondles!

From the force of custom, I was indeed obliged to attend the lectures of the Egyptian priests, and they instructed me in the mysteries of a superstition, that carried with it no tendency to better the heart: for the confused and silly account they delivered of their Gods, was only calculated to establish their own authority; the rites of whose religion could not be to the Deity pleasing, nor to man beneficial! And as to the maxims of

their better morality, they had not sufficient efficacy, as they brought no forcible tie against the passions; though wisdom shone bright in their ethics.

As to their lessons on government, and the art military, they were the more pleasing to indolence, rising from its silken couch, as they served to flatter ambition, and initiate me to the offices of a great conqueror; to which appellation I began to aspire. My young heart, smit with love of fame, soon panted for glory; for amidst the softness of a seraglio, I took a manly delight in hunting the fiercest animals to death, and shewing dexterity in martial exercises.

But in the bloom of youth, the softer passions prevailed in my bosom; for love and friendship, though but in shadow, chiefly employed the moments of rising manhood, with a pleasure the more agreeable as they were first impressions. Among the pages which always attended my person, I could not help distinguishing young Amasis, for the politeness of his address, and that unusual correspondence of temper which subsisted between our natures, though the turn we gave our minds were different: I to command, he to obey.

In order to make his fortune, ambition taught him to ingratiate himself into my confidence, by a ready compliance to my desires, and a perfect submission to my will, in administering to my pleasures with agility. Thus  
flatter-



flattering my passions, and gratifying my appetites, by the sweetest complacency of temper, and a facility of pleasing, he made himself necessary to my very happiness! Under such temptations, with such a dangerous sy-chophant, what could be expected!

What rivaled him for sometime in my affections, was the strong natural propensity in my bosom towards the fair sex; but hitting my taste, he supplied fickle inclination with variety; by which he artfully defended my heart, from the peculiar attachment of love, and damped the force of desire by voluptuous and reiterated gratification; till at length I was surfeited with the very deliciousness of amorous sensuality. I heard again the call of proud Ambition, and bursting Love's rosy fetters, twined round my heart, I forced wanton Pleasure to give way to Glory!

It is the fatality of mortals, to begin to be unhappy almost the moment they possess happiness; for the pleasures of life consist in pursuit, not in attainment! I had all a kind parent could bestow, but his crown! In that splendid circle, I thought was centred all glory and happiness! The life of easy pleasure which I led, appeared to the activity of my spirit utterly trifling, and meanly inglorious. Disgusted with the pomp of a court in which I was not first, with the dalliance of ladies, the ease and softness of Luxury and Indolence; I frequently retired alone in a grove  
of

of myrtles, whose gloomy shade nodded over the sacred Nile, wrapt up in thoughts profound. There often met by my Amasis, from a few hints I dropped, not knowing disguise, he dived into the nature of my discontent.

Oh my adored prince, he cried, in a pompous style, I see it is not for your capacious mind to be satisfied with trifles.\* As your great soul is peculiarly formed, and perfected by the Gods, to rule a great kingdom, it requires a throne; for nothing less can give it satisfaction; and thou shalt have a diadem! Ah, I replied hastily, what does your indiscreet zeal dare promise? To which he answered: Your royal father, though once full of ambition and activity of spirit, and a fiery warrior, now like the ancient lion of the forest, enfeebled by time, and spurned by the asses he contemned, grows old and infirm of body, with a mind proportionably debilitated; which make the weight of government hang heavy on his shoulders; and he totters beneath the unequal ponderosity. Pardon my lord the liberty I take; while I perceive, nay all behold, the mighty powers you possess buried in a lifeless court.---All interrupted my ambition. What all! I said. To which he answered, yes, my lord, the nobility perceive the king's decline; they are not blind to your exalted merit; and they require a monarch of a nobler activity of soul. Where then, O prince, is the impropriety of your father's resignation

signation? In short the nobility will directly request it for the king's own ease, your glory, and the nation's grandeur; and their request will carry authority! Forbear, it must not be, I cried, but with a denial whose faintness whispered consent; and he left me to pursue a plan he had concerted before he felt the pulse of my ambition.

Immediately he convened a body of young nobility, which he knew were heartily in my interest; and animated with his theme he grew eloquent, inspiring those ardours which he felt himself, into the youthful hearts of the auditors, apt to catch fire and blaze with fervency; and thus he began: Oh noble patriots, the soul of community, who eminently possess wisdom in its highest degree, to know the good of your country, honour to determine, and to pursue it the spirit of generosity: you have long beheld the imbecility of declining age unfit to support with dignity, the honour of Egypt from the insults of surrounding enemies; as well as its inability to procure national happiness. If we are not seized by the grasp of Oppression, the state's decline is suffered to go down to degeneracy, without opposing vigorous measures to give it support; much less are the exertions of genius sent to bring required perfection. Do we not labour under heavy exactions, which answer no end but to gratify avarice, and support unmeriting Luxury? who, feeding vulture  
like,

like, on the vitals of our country, behold its decay, with unfeeling obduracy ! But is there not a prince, who instead of adding to our load, will take off the heavy pressure of the burthen under which we groan, shine out upon us the now clouded sun of prosperity, and among the kingdoms, with which we are encompassed, give us rank and exaltation ? Let us then, my noble countrymen, send a deputation to beseech the king, as he tenders the happiness of his people, before his own private glory ; to resign that sceptre he is no longer able to wield, into the hands of his princely son ; who sharing the throne with his father, will pour around the nation whole floods of expected happiness !

No more, he said, but bowed with a courtier's polite humility ; and his sentiments were received with the shouts of applause. Immediately they chose three from among themselves, who being admitted before the king, presumed to require, in the name of the whole people, the incorporation of the prince in the royal throne ; which threw the king into a passion, and he cast the arrogants into prison. That was the very stroke Amasis hoped the king would strike ; and ready prepared, he over-persuaded the young noblemen to head a party at hand, and attempt the release of their friends : to which imprudently consenting, actuated by strong passions, they became rebels, and set the court in a conflagration.

Then



Then the artful Amasis and his emissaries stirred up the body of the people, disgusted by scarcity, and put them in commotion, demanding the release of prisoners, and the exaltation of the prince. At that crisis, using all his skill and eloquence, he at length persuaded me to appear at the head of the revoltors, who immediately declared me king of Egypt. So dreadful is a mob, who have received bad impressions, for they only speak from their feelings!

The good old king was greatly agitated, with the disturbances he had not power to allay, without a resignation; to which he could not bear to be compelled, though in favour of his own son: but when he knew I joined with rebellious subjects, it broke his heart. Before he expired, he commanded my presence. When I entered the royal chamber, I beheld my ever kind parent, in a situation that pierced my heart, far from being destitute of tenderness. He gently raised his venerable head at my approach on his pillow; the hand of affliction had paled his once august countenance, and the tear of sorrow fell down his furrowed cheek. Behold, O son, he cried, to what an extremity I am drove by this disobedience! I am reduced to the lowest ebb of life, by him to whom I gave life, and from whom my affection withheld no happiness! Alas——

Unable to bear his just reproaches, and stung by the darts of keen remorse, I fell at his feet. I confessed my crime; I begged pardon; I vowed obedience; I offered to die, and with sincerity! Live, Oh my son, he said, I forgive all; for I deserve it all! It is a just punishment sent from the Gods! I kiss the rod! for I usurped the crown to which I had no right; I dispossessed the lawful heir, whose son is now a humble shepherd. May you never feel the example you set, rise against yourself! Farewell and be moderate! He fell back in the arms of his people, and was no more! My passions being violent, I was touched with extreme grief: I ordered his funeral with the utmost pomp, and placed his embalmed remains in a lofty pyramid: but the great affairs in which I was engaged made my sorrows soon subside, and my soul began to expand itself, elevated with the hope of glory: so permitted to answer mighty purposes in the plan of Providence, in which I had little concern, but as an instrument; though I vainly appeared as principal.

The people, fond of change from the flattery of hope, who promises alterations for the better; and naturally fickle, were not sorry for the loss of their old master, but hailed their new one with bursts of acclamation. Indeed, when I took the reins of government, the partizans of my father, calling the people

ple a beast of burden, declared they would soon find their error; for their old master suffered them to go their own pace, but the new one would add to their load, and spur them on faster: which observation was soon verified; for being of a disposition to undertake great things, they soon felt the weight of my genius, in mighty labours of utility and magnificence.

The first work in which I engaged my chearful people, was to my honour, in cutting canals all over my kingdom, in order to distribute the rich overflowing manure of prolific Nile, into every quarter of Egypt; which was a most sure means of bringing universal plenty. Then I employed, under the direction of a skilful artist, 100,000 men, to cut an immense bed, in order to join two seas together; but I failed, and lost abundance of lives. Then inspired with an idea of superior magnificence, I compelled half my kingdom to erect me a most superb palace, in a taste perfectly grand; the materials of the most elegant marble, beautifully polished, graced with a thousand pillars, as valuable for the delicacy of workmanship, as for the richness of the marble: and I made the other half pay the expence. I married the richest and most beautiful princess in the world; and I filled my seraglio with the loveliest and most accomplished ladies. But now all completed, I was not satisfied; sincere pleasure mocked my

embraces, and real happiness, seemingly resident in my palace, fled my presence, though courted to regale in superb apartments, or wander in the gardens of exuberant nature; and cruelly left in her floral paths, anxiety and discontent; while she revelled in cottages with sun-burnt peasants, and nut-brown nymphs!

Then it was that the activity of my spirit put me to strike a bold stroke, which, agreeable to my ambition, was to shine above all mankind in glory, a universal conqueror, in subduing the world by force of arms. I raised a vast army. Ambition had not then the holy excuse of religion on its side; the small apology it formed to palliate the destruction of millions, was civilizing manners, and introducing arts and sciences, in order to change the conquered into men, from being barbarians. The desire after glory, which was occasioned by repose, now was heightened into a feverish thirist, when reviewing my gallant troops, I found myself at the head of 200,000 Egyptians, Ethiopians, Arabians, and other mercenaries, and soldiers of fortune. Supported by such an enterprising multitude, vanity flattered me with an idea of invincibility. It was God-like to command, and be adored by such vast numbers, and send terror round the world: for the sight of a well regulated army, with trumpets sounding, and banners flying, animates the martial mind above itself!

At



At length I resolved to attack the effeminate Asiatics, in order to humble their overgrown pride; and to furnish my army from the stores of luxury, to carry on the war with spirit, wherever glory should lead, or success countenance: and nothing in politics is easier to find than pretext!

In order to work upon the soldiery, and to assure them the Gods were on our side, we sacrificed to the celestial powers, and Gods infernal, with the utmost pomp; and gained from the generous omens, and happy signs of priest-craft, the most auspicious promises: and then leaving fertile Nile, we poured irresistibly into Syria, like a torrent that overleaps the bank outrageous, spreading all around wide destruction. Soon in the broad Assyrian plains, we were confronted by an adequate host in point of number, pompous with neighing steeds untrained, and ten thousand chariots of war; but as to prowess, only a confused croud of feeble women, in long flowing robes of glossy satin; and gilded arms, back flashing the sunny ray, seemingly more for show than offence; and more fit to allure an enemy to seize them for prey, than intimidate us to fly for fear. As I had a genius turned to war, of course I took care to see my army perfectly disciplined, in all the known military sciences. To take off the natural fear of death, I rewarded the merit of peculiar courage with unbounded liberality. I stained cowardice  
with

with the infamy of a shame never to be wiped off, but by acts of superior valour; promising by the mouths of sacred priests, to those who fell in battle, Elysian fields, and pleasure immortal. To crown the whole, I conciliated the opinion of the troops, by the address of affability, the generosity of munificence, and by equally sharing in myself danger and glory with an active personal valour.

When I saw the unskilful manner of the enemy's forming, assured of victory, I made a short harangue, and said aloud, on an eminence; fellow soldiers, above all things, with your courage preserve discipline; you have little else to do but plunder; and I only suffered half my army to engage; the other half standing to behold and to succour. The enemy's whole dependance was on the fierce impetuosity of a sudden shock, after the first volley of arrows; and that once sustained, the defeat became easy. They broke, indeed, into the centre of my army, with a full tide, but were stopped in their career by a strong body of horse, supporting the heavy armed infantry like a wall of brass. Then the two wings closing upon their flanks, which beheld an equal army fresh in reserve, they retreated, and fled precipitately, with the loss of fifty thousand, and all their rich camp, which was distributed among the victorious.

*The Fall of TREACHERY.**A fatal Discovery.*

While the great Egyptian conqueror was thus gone forth subduing the earth, I left the reins of government in the hands of my mother Anxiope; who was a lady of great spirit and capacity; which I did in order to mollify the disgrace she suffered in my attempt to force my father to a painful resignation. Amasis, by a variety of pleasing arts, had wrought himself into my confidence; especially, as super-added to his desire of obliging, I found he had capacity. Selected from among all my flatterers, I thus unbosomed to the traitor all my soul; saying, Amasis, in leaving Egypt, I was obliged to place my mother at the head of affairs, for many reasons; but Prudence tells me it is necessary I should leave some capable person around her path, as a check upon her actions, that will continually give me speedy intelligence of every incident relative to my kingdom. The man on whom I should rest this great trust, ought to possess judgment and fidelity, in the highest degree. I think I do not flatter thee, when I say thou art the man. Let it then be sufficient to declare, thou art my choice, and without giving thee instructions, I leave every thing to thy prudence and sagacity, while I give thee adequate power to the charge.

charge. Farewell, and be vigilant. He bowed obedient satisfaction, and I retired.

Amasis, now vested in his office at court, and the king gone, the queen-mother owing him a grudge, and looking upon him as a spy upon her actions, treated him with great haughtiness; but his pliant soul, though rankling within, seemed to bear all affronts with the greatest humility: and he wore the deceptious mask of inattention, in whatever she was concerned; by which in time she was thrown of her guard. But he converted half her attendants to spies, by the force of his bribes, and the most plausible insinuations. Thus in all public affairs of the state, there was nothing of moment agitated among her secret council, or almost in her own bosom, but what he attained by intelligence, or by the guesses of probability. These, by his faithful couriers, which he was continually dispatching, he revealed to the conqueror in cyphers; and his assiduity met the highest marks of applause, with strong assurances of protection. Thus I took notice of many great affairs, which surprised the queen-mother; and believing that Amasis sent the intelligence, she determined his ruin: but her preparations, in consequence of that resolve, were not so secret, but he dived into her deepest machinations; and strove to be before hand by a plot of an extraordinary nature.



Zulzemon, an Egyptian nobleman, was settled about the court, in several posts of honour and profit, by Anxiopé; and he was supposed to be her peculiar favourite. In their first acquaintance he was the handsomest man in Egypt, and now though near fifty, he had, being tall and slim, an air of genteel dignity, with something very pleasing in his countenance. The friendship which Anxiopé began with him, appeared as if it never would have a period; and proving a very sensible person, he transacted various great affairs for her majesty, being the only person with whom she intrusted her secrets. Both he and the queen-mother, looked upon my young deputy as a dangerous man, and they took measures accordingly.

Amasis beholding this powerful connexion, now was assured it boded to him no good; and therefore deliberated to reap such advantage from it, as to turn the danger which threatened himself upon their own heads. Believing there subsisted between them more than a common intimacy, and resolving to discover the whole of his supposition, on which his own safety depended; he spared no pains nor costs, to penetrate their secret recesses. Fearful themselves of a discovery, they had most cautiously guarded against his devices, and vainly fancied themselves in the impenetrable confines of security. But what can exclude the force of gold? Who can re-

sist its influence? and what is secure from the power of indefatigable perseverance? At length with a world of pains, and at the expence of vast sums, he was certified that Zulzemon and Anxiopé carried on an amour, which had subsisted, through the windings of soft desire, near thirty years.

Now he gained this point, he begun to pursue his plan. Every thing being at his command, either by his bribes, or his natural authority and cunning, he called his most trusty friends together. At midnight he convened a grand concil privately. The captain of the guard was at his devotion, as were most of the officers in the palace. Just turned of mid-night, with three of his confidents, he went secretly through the ante-chambers, and came to the royal apartments, led by treacherous servants, who conducting him up a small private pair of back stairs, with a golden key softly turning, Amasis and his friends crept lightly into the queen-mother's dormitory; and softly undrawing the canopying curtains, by the light of a small wax-taper, they all discovered Zulzemon a sleep in the same bed with Anxiopé. A glow of terrible delight, mixed with the tremblings of sacred awe, swelled the proud heart of Amasis; whose hand naturally sprung to his sword hilt.

The moment the curtains let in the light, the lovers awaked, perfectly astonished to find themselves in the view of their enemies.

Amasis

Amasis drew his sword to kill Zulzemon, but Anxiopé, though in the greatest consternation, had presence of mind to catch hold of his arms, beseeching him to spare Zulzemon; which gave him time to spring out of bed, and gain a private door ere the traitors could reach him; and shutting it back, after he jumped through the lucky opening, provided indeed for that purpose, he closed a large bolt, and made an easy escape to the confusion of Amasis. Then Anxiopé changing her tone to the utmost rage, commanded his absence, bitterly reproaching him for his presumption; to which he coolly replied, after ordering his accomplices to retire; madam, I design this hour to accuse you to the grand council of the nation, which now is met; and if you will not come to my terms, you shall be imprisoned, the queen placed in your stead; and I can easily work up the king to sign your death. Anxiopé turned pale, but smothered her anger and disdain; and softening her voice with feminine artifice, she said, what terms dost thou propose Amasis? I should rejoice to make you my friend.

Amasis paused some moments — shocked with the villainy of his own demands, and thus replied, the accents faltering on his tongue; I first require, he said, that you give up Zulzemon to my disposal; you must next publicly marry me, and then I will make you again queen of Egypt: and the king may

reign over his conquered nations. If he disapproves, I can raise with Assyrians, and from many kingdoms who long to lower his power, three hundred thousand men; and a throne is worthy the chance of danger. Struck with horror at the proposal, she paused, recollective of arts to avert impending danger. Madam, said the traitor, you must come to the point: yes or no---for I shall abate nothing of my demands. Then she said, it signifies nothing to canvass the offers. I agree, will comply to your request, and submit to all your orders. Prepare then Madam, he said, for the priest this morning to perfect our nuptials; and excuse me if I set guards around your person. Do as you please my lord, she said, for I am at your disposal; all that I require is, that our marriage may be solemnized in the temple of Isis, before the Egyptian nobility.

Accordingly when all things were prepared, the exulting Amasis led the queen-mother Anxiope to the temple, amidst the displeased nobles; conducting her smiling gay self-sufficiency. When Anxiope reached the priest, she flung disdainfully away the hand of Amasis, placing her own on the altar; and lifting up her eyes to heaven, said in the most solemn tone; O Isis, and Osiris, and all ye Gods, to ye I appeal; and lay my cause before the now assembled nobility. This villain Amasis, on the merits of discovering an intimacy between myself and Zulzemon;  
which



which I confess was wrong, and which I repent most sincerely; artfully forced from me a consent to his proposal of marriage; after which he is to assume the throne, and exclude my son, perhaps by poison; therefore I require the traitor may be taken into custody. A venerable lord said; is this, Amasis, true or false? To which he answered arrogantly, I disclaim your authority to tax me; and drew his sword. At that the nobility commanded the guards to seize him, which they did; and he not being able to exculpate himself, they condemned him to present death. The queen regent signed his warrant. He was led to execution, and Anxiope retired to the palace.

In the mean time, an old servant from Zulzemon arriving post, desired an immediate audience of Anxiope in private, was admitted, and kneeling said, O queen, Amasis is thy son! prevent his destruction. She sent an express away directly to save the bold youth. Then the servant declared, that while the late king, by a disorder, was rendered incapable of having children, she bore a son to her favourite Zulzemon; which for fear of a discovery he gave him to destroy. But he said, my compassion forced me to save its life. I had the child brought up unknown at a farmer's. When he grew towards manhood, a nobleman, since dead, pleased with his vivacity, took him home, and in a few years introduced him a page at court, by the name of Amasis, where

where he became a favourite with his brother the young prince. Then he produced such manifest tokens of the truth, she became perfectly satisfied that Amasis was her son, by Zulzemon; and smiting her breast, she cried, what evils wait on lawless love!

Maternal affection began now to spring up in her bosom. With the utmost anxiety she waited for the messenger's return, who at last coming into her presence, declared that Amasis was just beheaded, before he could countermand her former order. Anxiope burst into a flood of tears, and penetrated with the most pungent sorrow, bewailed the death of her unfortunate son, killed by a hapless mother's cruel command! Remorse, like a canker-worm, preyed upon her heart; peace fled from her silken pavilion; the most painful grief pierced her soul, and in a few months she died, leaving the regency in the hands of the queen of Egypt, the lovely wife of the king her son, who to her matchless beauty, possessed in a high degree wisdom and judgment. Thus fell my traitor brother, pulling down that ruin upon his own head, which on mine he ungratefully projected.

In order to raise my reputation in arms, the more successfully to carry on the grand designs of ambition, longing after universal monarchy, I was resolved to besiege the famous city Babylon, and either take it, or sacrifice before its stout walls my whole army.

Sur-

Surrounded with three impregnable mounds, the imperial metropolis of earth laughed the attempt to scorn; and growing its own sustenance within its enclosure, derided our temerity. But security shall destroy thee, O Babylon!

We built a tower which overlooked their proud parapets, and beheld the Babylonians occupied in trade and pleasure, as if no enemy was at hand. To batter down their fortresses would have been an attempt merely insignificant; to scale their walls impossible. I exerted invention, and began a new scheme. I built a high broad curtain, at once to obstruct the sight, and defend pioneers from darts and missile weapons. Every night, by the direction of geometricians and artists, fifty thousand pioneers proceeded to dig a deep subterraneous passage under the walls, to rise in some corn fields near the city. The vast quantities of earth handed out in baskets and sacks, were carried at a distance, as a feint, to form a kind of castle, seemingly to annoy the defendants, where we appeared to pay the highest attention.

In six months, with immense labour, myself not disdaining the basket; so pride knows how to stoop! we finished the dark cavern, properly sustained with arches, and vast timbers. One of their greatest festivals being at hand, in honour of the god Bel, we waited till then to break earth in the city, naturally  
suppos-

supposing the burghers would be off their guard, buried in sleep, and debilitated by the force of inebriety. The fatal night came; the signal was given. The soldiers broke into the city; they fired the houses, and forced open the gates, unexpectedly before the citizens could arm, or make any opposition. Death, on his triumphant elephant, rode in victorious, surrounded with all his terrors, furies, and desolations! Nothing shews human nature in a worse light than war; for when all restraint is taken off, and man is permitted to follow the bent of inclination, his villainy is so unparagoned on earth, he can then be compared to nothing but devils! It is sufficient to say, that being acknowledged conqueror, and loaded with booty, we killed fifty thousand men, women, and children, and so retired. What an account? and yet war seldom gives a better!

Then came resounding my exploits over the globe, the terror of my arms brought nations at my feet; and all opposition was scattered before me, like autumnal leaves in the northern groves, scuttling away when the blustering winds arise indignant. I penetrated next the very heart of India; received into favour the submissive, and beat the refractory into obedience.



*A CLUSTER of WONDEROUS EVENTS.*

*The Thirst of Fame quenched with a bitter  
Draught, from the Hand of Misfortune.*

The last great battle which I fought in my vain expedition, proved so fatal, that though it put not a period to my life, it nearly reduced me all my life to the most abject slavery. Several confederated nations had joined all their forces, to obstruct my passage through India, and met in a vast plain; whose countless numbers equalled the sands of the desert, or autumnal leaves of a large forest, scattered by wintry squadrons. It was mid-day before I could oblige the enemy to encounter. At length they gave the word Liberty, while ours was Glory; and fiercely rushed, in spite of all obstacles, into the very centre of my army; but received by a chosen party, fresh and alert, as their vigour began to abate, they in their turn were obliged to give way. Thundering with all my horse, I seized the lucky moment, and now all confusion, they fled amidst their auxiliaries, and encreased the disorder they were thrown into by my victorious troops.

A large battalion of Scythian cavalry hearing all was lost, and not being willing to follow the common route, resolved to turn back, in order to gain their own country; which

could not be done but aside my left wing. Accordingly, the moon now beginning to shine, they marched towards the left wing, which opposed their passage. The conflict was sharp; and finding the victors now repulsed, I flew with a handful of men, in hope to animate them with my presence; but the ardour of my courage urging me too far, I found myself, and a few resolute officers, unsupported by any soldiers, quite surrounded by vast numbers of the enemy. In defending my life, my friends lost their own lives; and covered with wounds I was taken prisoner, while my Egyptians thought I fell in battle.

Not knowing who I was, but considering me as a young officer of rank, the Scythian general took me in his own equipage; and his surgeon, though skilful only in herbs, in process of time cured my wounds. As I had some knowledge of the Thracian language, I soon became intelligible; and informed the prince I was a young nobleman, of good family but small fortune, sent into the army for preferment. By my agreeable manners I soon conciliated his esteem, for though my heart was panged with the idea of what I had lost, yet dissembled cheerfulness covered the rankling cares within, while, glad I was not discovered, my labouring mind worked hard to find some means of releasement. We travelled through vast tracts of a country insupportably wild; but that,

that, the large company I was in, who perfectly knew their way, or easily obtained guides, took off from its disagreeable appearance.

At length we arrived at the Scythian court, in which the king resided, to whom I was presented, and my story related. He received me in as kind a manner, as it is possible for a mere Barbarian. How unlike the superb magnificence of Egyptian palaces, bright with polished marble, was the simplicity of his pastoral court? which consisted of an indifferent camp; the king's pavilion being little superior to the tent of an Asiatic officer! Ever delighting in horses, and disregarding regular cities, the Scythians roved from valley to valley, for the sake of pasturage, and the pleasure of hunting, being courageous and expert in arms. Wild as they were in their manners, and ferocious in their natures, they were not destitute of good qualities: guilty of but few great vices; towards each other they loved to be social; and as there was but little peculiar property, and a pellucid simplicity ran through their systems, these Barbarians enjoyed their little life with more sincere comfort, than the more polished and refined.

Just before I arrived, a royal hunting match had been proclaimed, and at the day appointed, there was an amazing assemblage of people, chiefly horse, consisting of the king, queen, prince and princess, ladies, officers,

and mingled nations. A regular army was formed, and a camp erected, with colours flying amidst unnumbered tents that whitened all the plain. At length, at the sound of trumpets, deep cornets, and shrill clarions, we marched to an appointed forest, which we surrounded. The huntsmen and dogs forced all the wild beasts into the centre, which was a large vale with a river; and we kept closing, with loud shouts, and trumpets sounding, upon the affrighted savages, till drove to desperation, they rushed upon each other a promiscuous battle of lions, tygers, panthers, and leopards.

I was mounted upon a gallant steed, armed with a spear, arrows, a shield slung across my shoulder, and a simitar at my side. A large panther drove by the dogs, made towards me, at which my young horse took fright, and flew with me across the river to a small island; still pursued by the enraged monster, who swam the stream, and leaping on his flank, tore him to the ground, and tumbled me unhurt on the grass.

Before I could recover my lance, or make use of my arrows, he then took to me with a roar, that made the river shudder. My nervous left arm was guarded by my broad tough shield; my ready right drew forth my sharp simitar, flashing portentous to the sun; and thus crouching I stood to receive his attack. On me all eyes were fixed. The trum-

pet



pet sounded to animate my courage. The monster answered in roaring thunder; and the hills replied. I saw his line of direction, and as he flounced at me full drive, I sidled towards a tree, sprung behind its aged trunk, and eluding the savage's intention, gave him a deep gash, with a strong backhanded stroke. Furious he howled; he tore up the grass; then panting turned, and rushing on my shield, he beat me down. The spectators groaned; but giving way to the shock I could not stand, I bounded up in a moment, and while the panther rolled over head and ears, I followed him, and ere he could recover himself, I cleaved him down, and repeating my strokes, killed my dreadful foe amidst the shouts of delighted Scythians.

While I was standing before the king's pavilion, satisfying the eye of curiosity, pleased to review the odness of my foreign garb, which the next day, with my diamond hilted sword, were to be given as a trophy to the prince; I beheld the king's daughter, with a troop of amazonian ladies, coming towards the court on beautiful white palfreys. From a kind of tiara on her head, floated in the air black ostridge feathers, which served as a foil to the whiteness of her complexion, contrasted with a blush richer than the bloom of opening roses! Her shape and air was more delicate than the sleek antelope's, and she appeared

peared more beautifully charming than the gay almond tree in full blossom!

On one side of the camp ran a large river, over which was a wooden bridge. Here the princess directed her spirity horse; but taking a violent fright at something which started up before him, he flew away like the wind, and with his fair burden, who loudly screamed for succour, plunged furious into the midst of the rapid river, where he threw the fainting princess. Struck with compassion, and fired with ardour to display the generosity of heroism, I threw off my silken vest, and sprang into the river. With musculous arms and feet, I boldly combated the rapid surge, came up to the princess, and just as she sank down, fearless I dived below, caught her scarfy vesture, and towed her to the whirling surface. Then animated like a sea god, I took the precious burthen on my back, panting half breathless; and buffeting the swift wave, running to embrace her fair bosom, I brought her safe to shore, amidst the shouts of the astonished Scythians! She was carried to the royal pavilion, and soon recovered, often enquiring after her deliverer.

When I was introduced to the princess, she received me in the utmost disorder, and with faltering accents, thanking me for the preservation of that life, which she said would be continued but to own the obligation; she dismissed me as soon as possible. Never before

was

was my heart susceptible of such elegant feelings. To describe them is impossible. None but the most ardent lovers can form an idea of their tenderness. It is sufficient to say, that a new-born passion absorbed my ambition, pride, love of glory, and the desire I had of returning to my lost throne. I thought of nothing but lovely fair Zenuvia, for that was the name of the princess.

One still evening, when the camp was all in silence, and the pale night star shone solemn over the wide valley, or danced quivering on the stream; as I was musing alone in my tent, who should come in like an unexpected goddess, but the blooming Zenuvia! and one female attendant. Unconscious of evil, she disdained to blush; yet pausing beautiful in virgin delicacy, she saw me kneel at her feet. Rise, stranger, she said, by this intrusion perhaps I transgress on the decorum of your manners; but truth and simplicity being our guides, what we dare to think, we blush not to confess! you saved my life, and I feel towards you the highest gratitude. But Oh! is not gratitude a kindred feeling to love? and if I should love thee, would the passion be reciprocal? Yes, by the glorious sun I swear, Oh charming princess, that I love thee more dearly than life! I said, and kist her fair willing hand. Then she thus spoke pathetic; in three days I am doomed to wed the Thracian prince, but I would rather fly  
with

with thee! I answered inconsiderate---With all my soul---Let us fly this moment. No, she rejoined, let it be to-morrow, and by then I will procure a guide, and other necessaries, who will conduct us to the seats of security. She ended thus, and speedily retired, leaving me transported with images the most enchanting. The sweet impressions her dear idea made on my amorous heart, forced me to the most pleasing revery, and I stood absorbed in thought delightful.

While my soul was inebriating itself, with the sweet intoxication of Fancy, in the ideal banquet of fore-tasting Love; feasting in all the luxury of eager anticipation, Zenuvia's brother came hastily into my tent, and cried, Fly!---The Thracian prince, furious with jealousy, is hasting to kill thee! Taking me to the door, he rejoined; Behold both he and his friends are galloping down yon hill; away!---and he directed me to a defile between vast mountains, where I might easily escape. He forced me off, for I had an ambition to die for the sake of my charmer; and ordered Axulto, a noble youth, to be my guide, who understood the country, and the languages; by which I easily escaped my rival's fury. But I never heard more of my lovely princess. What did I suffer?

After we past the defile, lodging in caves, we came into the little camp of a roving family, who received us with unaffected hospitality.



ality. By them we learned the several states around us were at war, which obliged us to change our route, travelling some days with the pastorals. How mistaken are the great, who place all happiness in riches! for here, a people destitute of their darling object, enjoy a more sincere pleasure, and feel fewer anxieties! When they approach a spot thick with grass, near which flows a stream, they pitch their homely tents, and give their horses sporting to the rich pasture. Then beneath a lofty hedge, which serves at once to shelter them from the breeze winds, and shade from the burning sun; they gather wood, which is plentiful, kindle their fire, and joyous in the amicable circle recumbent, tell the comic tale while the pot is boiling, or the heavy cakes are baking. Then sitting in a circle, on the green-sward carpet, the trencher between their well-croft legs, keen appetite feasts on the high flavoured flank of horse, and regales on fresh fruits gathered in their passage. When done, to rude yet cheering music, they dance jovial on the cropt herbage; or running as thirst invites to the clear stream, they inhale the copious draught, or quaff the rich cup of mare's milk. While some more tender, seek the unfrequented lane umbrageous, to tell the soft tale of love not overheard; and far from prying eyes to play in amorous dalliance; harmless votaries of nature, obedient to her gentle call.

As they danced on the green, footing the ground uncoothly with the antic gambols of careless festivity, how often have I cried in pity to myself, O! happy rovers, whom no ambition disturbs, no cares molest, who having no thrones to lose, are ignorant of a thousand things which torture the great! how unmixed are your pleasures; your joys how sincere! you feast on delight with the highest relish, and sink on grassy repose to renew your enjoyments! Had I not worn a diadem, I could love a pastoral life; and even now I would share your careless freedom, if to my arms you could bring my dear Zenuvia!

But the time soon came when we were obliged to depart. Then we took leave of the jolly rovers, who gave us some flower and rice, and directed our progress along the sandy banks of a vast river. One day as I went in the stream several paces, to cool my feet, not now defended by sandals, which worn out, like the natives I was forced to go barefoot; as I left the water, a huge alligator sprung from his reedy retreat, and missing my just uplifting leg, he caught my garment, and would have dragged me in, my heart beating with excessive terror, but that my nimble friend near at hand thrust his javelin into the penetrable soft of his eye, and made him retire. For the future we were more cautious, though often obliged to catch fish for life's support.

The

The sedgy river now winding out of our course, we had a large pathless desert to cross, which afforded a dreary prospect to the fatigued eye; an ocean of sand that seemed unbounded. Without sweet streams to quench thirst, or leafy trees to shade off the perpendicular rays; high over head refulgent phebus shot his sultry beams, while no friendly cloud came to our call, nor the cooling refreshment of the balmy breeze. Thus bare-foot I trod the burning sun-reflecting sand, loaded with drink, dried fruits, and fish. Melted with sultry blasts, and parched with thirst, we only dared to taste the precious drops of water by spoonfuls, when our eager drought demanded rivers! But as we languished with excess of heat, and were almost sinking under fatigue, we luckily descried at a distance the terminating appearance of a shaggy wood; which growing upon the eye as we nimbly advanced, realized our fancied hope. O pain, how dost thou make us relish pleasure!

As enraptured we penetrated the cool refreshing shade, our ears were saluted with the musical trill of gurgling water, to the thirsty harmony divine! we quaffed the sweet draught more delicious than sparkling wine to the monarch, celebrating his birth day amidst his nobles! Our tired limbs we reclined on the soft grass, found dangerous indeed by the lurking serpent. As we traversed the wood,

in search of fruit and nuts, we discovered a large cavity, opening into the capacious bosom of a broad-backed hill: I adventured first, to find a place of safe repose. Within, about twenty paces, was a round space, into which the light worked its way through an interstice, made by sudden falls of heavy rain. As I viewed the commodious hollow, I heard a groaning noise, and turning, beheld the fiery eye of an old dreadful tyger; who rousing himself as from sleep, now made towards me! Fear adding wings to my feet, I flew horribly affrighted from the fierce monster, who appeared deeply tinged with blood. Out he bolted after me roaring hideous, and making one violent effort, he sprung with all his strength, roaring, on his hinder legs; and rushing upon me, beat me down on my back, as I turned short to elude his pursuit. For some moments he stood over me, growling intolerable terrification! What were the horrors I felt in beholding his gory jaws, in act going to tear me limb from limb! My breath panted short! I trembled in every joint! my throbbing heart beat excessive palpitation! and every nerve thrilled tremulous, while the froze blood curdled in my veins! But Providence can snatch us out of the jaws of death. The monster, unable to act his direful purpose, fell over me groaning; finding that death himself which for me he cruelly intended! He bruised me with the fall,



fall, but I soon regained my legs overjoyed, and found he had been wounded near the heart by the hunter's spear, and exerting himself, broke some of his vessels; by which saving mine, he put to his own life a period.

We staid no longer here than refreshment required, and continued our journey over the sandy plain. The third day looking behind, we discovered black clouds gathering portentous; and beholding some mountains before us at a great distance, we made towards them, to find shelter, if a tempest should arise. But before we could reach their broad basis, a prodigious hurricane, preluding in distant thunders, assaulted our rear. The western portico of heaven appeared to open, and let out whole floods of fiery lightening, and prodigious armies of blustering winds. Soon we saw, shrinking at the sight, the surface of the desert in motion! Clouds of dust, working spiral-wise like a pillar, uprose excessive in the air, whirling round till up-tossing, they spread all over a sheet of sandy smoke. Running with all our speed we reached the mountain; we climbed on hands and feet, and panting gained in mossy caves, the seat of security: struggling, indeed, many paces in sand up to the middle, which threatened every moment to be our grave.---When, I cried, will my sufferings find a period?

Immediately the dreary desert became as a tempestive ocean. The day was darkened;  
catch-

catching lightening flung itself here and there, as if it was spitefully stabbing the cloudy vesture of evening. Clattering thunder seemed to tumble down the very battlements of heaven over head; while re-bellowing winds screamed distraction! Amazed the sandy billows now agitated, upheaved their wavy bosoms, till carried upwards by the hurricane, they fought the clouds; but finding no support, forsaken by the winds, they sunk down again a shower of sand, and covered in their fall every shrub and tree; and if they had been there, they would have buried whole cities, with all their houses, palaces, temples, and inhabitants!---Surely, I cried, with me the Gods are angry!

When the outrageous storm was appeased, by the sacrifice of all beneath, we descended the mountain; walking fearfully over the altered face of nature, till we arrived at a city, in a fertile vale: a delightful contrast to the barren waste of a sandy desert! There we learned that the Egyptian army, now the king was killed in battle, had marched towards Abissinia, led by Taxanko, my general, upon his assuming the crown. We directly pursued our journey into Abissinia, but we had not been gone long, before the floodgates of heaven were opened, and for a month together, incessant rains poured down upon us, through the cloud-formed sluices. We attained with difficulty, thus travelling half naked, a recess  
from

from the vast dismal floods; which threatened to involve us in its deluge. What did I suffer? without friends; without proper sustenance; half starved in a strange country, and my health greatly impaired! I should have sunk under the vast pressure of my wretchedness, but for the friendly fidelity of my guide-companion, who soothed me to temperance.

At length we found a ship bound to the capital of the Abissinians. We gladly went on board, but only to go through new misfortunes. We no sooner gained the ocean, than a storm arose, which tossing the ship two days, now up into the very clouds, then letting us drop down the gulfy deep, bulged us against a rock; on which, with the utmost fatigue we saved our lives. We crawled up the country; were taken prisoners, made slaves and parted. There the misery I suffered, was almost maddening for a once great king! Naked, and fed with wretched provisions, I laboured above my strength, sinking under the sharp lashes of a cruel tyrant! But frequently I would cry to myself; there is justice in my punishment. How many has my aspiring pride reduced to the same torments I undergo? To what a condition are we brought by our passions! I called upon death to waite me to the land of peace: but cheered by the soft whispering of Hope, pointing to my lost sceptre, I put not away from my heart the  
anxious

anxious desire of life; and soon with joy I heard my army was approaching.

Thus, though I endured the severe inflictions of misfortune, yet my proud heart did not stoop to make a proper use of her lessons. Instead of learning from adversity to correct my passions, exalt my reason, and feel compunction; I chiefly bewailed the loss of power to gratify my evil propensities; and with bitter regret felt tribulation, without making a benefit of my distress; for ever blind to its utility, and too partial to see its justice; while in the dark moments of despair, I could not help arraigning even Providence.

Drooping under the maladies of body, and pungent anxieties of mind, I had not sufficient strength to perform my day's appointed work; at which my cruel task-master beat me unmercifully, till I was rendered incapable of all labour, and then he sent for a physician to heal my stripes, who, as well as myself, was a captive. When he came and saw my languishing state he pitied me, and administered several lenitives. I lay enfeebled on a poor bed of rushes, bewailing my misfortune in bursts of despair, without a friend to sooth my soul's anguish, or proper nutriment to sustain my body. As my kind physician was examining my wounds, he saw two scars on my breast with astonishment. He reviewed my pale visage; he remarked my pinched up features, and starting back at my uplifting eyes, which



which had not lost all their spirit; he said, art thou an Egyptian? and I replied in the affirmative: trembling he demanded, full of recollective surprise, Who art thou?---it is impossible---you cannot be my dear king in this miserable condition! Alas, I replied, the tears streaming from my eyes, your conjecture is but too true.

Full of loyalty and soft compassion, to see a great king so wretchedly fallen, he knelt at my bed side, and with the most passionate burst of pity, kist my trembling hand, and bathed it with his faithful tears, his heart being too full for expression. We continued thus for several minutes speechless, in the mingled soft sensations of love, pity, and admiration: after which he declared, he remembered me by the scars on my breast, to cure which he had assisted my physician. I charged him to be secret, resolving soon to reveal myself to my army, which was approaching; and I quickly recovered: for sweet hope tore back the dark curtain which dire despair drew over my soul, and pointed to my wishes a new world of felicity.

The victorious Egyptians came, conquered, and made me, among the rest, their prisoner. I required to see Abultus, the general of horse, who, I heard, disapproved the exaltation of Taxanko. When I came to his tent, I desired privacy. Thinkest thou, O Abultus, I said, with an authority that sur-

prized, from one so meanly clad; thinkest thou, if thy real king was now emerging to notice, that his people would give him a loyal reception? Clapping his hand on his heart, he said cautious, what I think is buried here. Why dost thou ask this question? I quickly rejoined, because I know he lives. Would to heaven, he cried, I could behold my dear prince, whom I love more than glory! See then, I said, weeping, touched with his gratitude, see thy poor king, deprest by excess of misfortunes! Behold the double scar you saw imprinted on my wretched bosom! Astonished he viewed the plain signatures, and remembered my voice. He fell at my feet; and kist my hand, bursting into tears, melted at the sight of unexampled woes: while deeply affected for some moments, agitated with conflicting passions, I stood, rapt in a speechless pause.

Then we laid our plan, and got all things ready in a week. Taxanko ordered all his great officers on a consultation, in the royal pavilion. When Abultus entered, he left me as sentinel; and said to Taxanko, as he seated himself on the royal throne, O my lord, the army is infected with the report, that the king is alive! To Abultus he said, frowning, on pain of death let no mention--- But my lord, said Abultus hastily, some declare the king is in the camp; and I know if he is not, there is one that personates his majesty.

majesty. Would to heaven I could see the impostor, this hand, by Osiris, should quench his ambition, Taxanko said, black as thunder. Then you shall behold him, answered Abultus, opening the door, and introducing me to my nobles. How durst thou, villain, said Taxanko to me, personate?----Throwing off my upper garment, while Abultus placed on my head a diadem, I appeared in rich imperial robes. Behold, my lords, I cried, your long lost king! At that, starting up furious, Taxanko poisoned his javelin, saying, tauntingly, take then, O king of impostors, the sceptre of thy desert; and he darted at my bosom the whizing spear, whose well-meant aim I falsified, by dropping on the ground; catching up my bow and arrow, and as Taxanko sat down, frowning on the regal seat, I said, traitor be thou fixt on the throne, and drew a fatal dart, which flying through the rebel, transfix'd him to the throne! Then I fully revealed myself to the glad nobility, who received me with joy, shouting aloud, God save the king; and all the army catching the sounds, re-echoed God save the king.

But adversity soon lost its humiliating effect; I forgot its lessons, and pride revived. Conquering as long as conquest was good, I glutted my heart with fame, glory and power; restoring some, and despoiling others; making kings themselves my slaves, till destroying

five million of earth's inhabitants, I returned to my native kingdom, crowned with excess of glory, and loaded with immense spoil, the plunder of the globe; and was received as a God, though I had been acting as a devil! while my faithful queen at home governed with the utmost wisdom. She gained the applause of the few, I of the million! For a long time I employed myself in triumphs, where, seated god-like in a pompous car, I was drawn by conquered kings, in chains of gold; while their queens and princes wept at my chariot wheels, to grace my triumph. So soon does success obliterate the lessons of adversity!

Losing my way in hunting, I was accosted by a hermit, who knew me. Oh prince, he said, to what good purpose was all this waste of victory! Would not yourself, and your kingdom, have been as happy, if you had never left the banks of Nile? But perhaps you was the minister of inscrutable Vengeance. Then my horse, stung by a fly, sprang forward, and I lost sight of the hermit.

Elated with success, puffed up with pride, and exulting in prosperity, Vanity induced me to think myself more than man; and I determined to be adored as a God! A grand temple was erected to my honour; my image was consecrated; my name enrolled among the Gods, and I received public adoration. Opposed and condemned, I carried all by force.



force. At length growing haughty, fierce, and selfish, I commenced absolute tyrant; making slaves of my subjects, and obliging them to build amazing piles of useless grandeur in vain pyramids, that brave the teeth of all devouring time!

## IMPIETY DEGRADED.

*Dramatic Incidents, and surprizing Turns.*

Now having run the length of time allotted to the career of Pride, and being ripe for punishment, I refrained not to affront contemptuously the emperor of Persia. He heard the dishonour with a calmness that lulled me to destruction; for unexpectedly, like a violent whirlwind, which nothing can resist, he rushed upon me suddenly, with a potent army of Parthians, Medes, and Persians, beat down my proud erections; fired my gorgeous palaces; subdued my country, and took me and my dear queen prisoners, confining me in a doleful dungeon. At first I was seized with a madness of rage. I blasphemed the Gods, and curst my existence, longing for the means of death, though destitute of courage to use them to my own extinction. But by degrees my anger subsiding, I began coolly to enquire into the cause of such a sudden change of fortune; and stating the case impartially, my judgment, though biased by habitual self-love,

love, could not help acknowledging, that in some measure I deserved my sufferings. This reasoning soon taught me to begin the painful task, though late, of refraining from the sweet indulgence of first impulses. Affliction is the best school to rectify the human heart!

Thus, by a retrospection of my past impieties, I saw their turpitude, and formed resolutions, that if I should ever regain my crown, taught by adversity, I would give up illicit delight and my passions, to study the happiness of my people. But news came that I was to be made a public sacrifice, and all my flattering hopes vanished like unsubstantial shadows. After all things were prepared to solemnize my immolation, before the priests demanded their victim, my queen was permitted to take a last farewell of her ruined lord! She came with firm purpose to behave in all the dignity of grief, without the weakness of sorrow. But when she beheld me in a dungeon; my royal garb disordered, and my limbs circled with chains; her first resolution forsook her, and she fainted in the arms of her female attendants. An agony of unutterable dolour stupifying my soul, froze my limbs in motionless misery! At length, easing my tortured heart with a flood of tears, I cried out, O wretch that I was, to involve this loveliest and best of women in my calamity! Immediately orders came to drag me to my fate, for the Persian monarch had solemnly

lemnly vowed a sacrifice to the Sun, of the noblest fruit of war that he should gather in the field of victory, which was myself. Such is often the fate of superior grandeur! and the priests were not backward to demand the votive offering.

When they took from my wrists the clanging manacles, I flew to my faithful queen's embrace; but collecting all my fortitude of soul, I said, That I merit but too justly this fate, ye Gods, I must confess; but that my queen must incur the penalty, without sharing my guilt, is past comprehension terrible! Oh, my loved lord, she nobly replied, feel not for my distress, which, heightened indeed by this fatal separation, finds refuge in conscious virtue, and the hope of meeting again never to part, in happier regions! The priests came; and weeping attendants covered her vast sorrows with a veil. Then crowned with a chaplet of flowers, and nobly dashing the bold intruding tears from my pale cheek, I was conducted to the temple, in the most solemn procession; surrounded with choral priests, following young virgins singing hymns to soft flutes, in praise of the god of victory.

When I entered the fane, the king and his nobles were seating themselves under a throne and golden canopies; the temple's superb dome being open at top to admit the sun's perpendicular rays. Soon as the usual rites were over, the high priest standing on the

the marble steps of the lofty altar, placed his left hand in solemn prayer on my devoted head: I trembled. Conscience bitterly reproached me of all my vices; but true repentance, like a flash of lightening, shielded me from her darts; and I cried to myself, O Ambition, thou glorious frailty of the mind, I hurl thee from my soul! Then lifting up his right, which bore the sacerdotal knife, and praying solemnly to the great source of light, the high priest, in act, was going to pierce my heart! when a messenger arriving to the king, expeditious of some great intelligence, put a stop to the dreadful immolation! News was brought that Exmotus, the right heir to the throne, which my father usurped, had raised violent commotions in Egypt; and the only method left to prevent a total defection, was to send me to quell the disturbances; for my people still revived in their breasts a sacred veneration for my memory.

The king commanding my deliverance, asked me if I would consent to pay him tribute, should I prove so fortunate to regain my sceptre. I easily acquiesced. To oblige their sovereign, the priests soon found means to absolve the king's vow. A treaty of peace was made, and we mutually on the altar, where I was doomed, interchanged the vows of perpetual amity. I flew with the utmost speed into Memphis, on the wings of impatience.



tience. My presence soon rekindled the natural love the Egyptians bore me; and remembering my former glory, and pitying my present misfortunes, they placed me on the throne with unanimity. To complete my joy, I saw by my troops brought before me, bound in chains, my youthful competitor! As success had ruined before, misfortune now set to rights my mind. The school of misery alone could make me rational.

When the royal youth approached my presence, loaded with fetters, my heart yearned in his favour. I meditated a great stroke, and dared to do the justice that struck me. To the astonishment of all the court, I descended my throne, took off his chains, seated him under the regal pavilion, and pulling the crown off my own brows, I placed it on his head. Behold, I said, O prince, a sacrifice you owe to Adversity, who has taught me justice. I restore you, in the name of all the Gods, to your lawful right, and now become your subject. The youth lifting up his pale cheek, cried, O god-like prince, I thank you, for this generosity; I will be as heroic. Then supported by my servants, he came down, and taking the diadem from his head, he laid it at my feet, saying, behold ye gods, the crown I cannot wear, I solemnly resign, for Oh---I am dying! And he gently sunk lifeless in the arms of his attendants, for fearful of imprisonment, he took a fatal dose of poison.

Touched with the untimely fall of so lovely a blossom, I ordered the prince's body to be embalmed with the choicest spices, and deposited in a magnificent pyramid. Then I convoked my subjects, and assured them, that as by indiscretion I had involved the nation unnecessarily in the miseries of war, I designed to make them a happy retaliation in the comforts of peace; and that giving up my own private felicity, I would alone study their happiness: solemnly calling upon all the Gods to witness the purity of my intentions. The people wept for joy, and out of love and gratitude sent forth loud shouts of approbation.

To honour my promise, I first selected a few sages, venerable for wisdom, virtue, and disinterestedness, joined to a love of their country. Divesting myself from the costly pomp of majesty, I resided in a small palace, indeed remarkable for being neat and commodious: sometimes relaxing my care-worn mind, in a beautiful retreat, on the prolific banks of reedy Nile, fragrant with the flowery lotus. Thus the savings from my natural revenue, enabled me to discharge the tribute I was obliged to pay the Persian king, without being a burthen to my country. As I had been a witness, in the progress of former wars, to the emoluments arising from trade, among the Tyrians and Sidonians, whose princely merchants, in a better manner than cruel war, made the whole earth their tributaries: I determined, above all things, to encourage the arts

arts of traffic; to open the ports, that Commerce might safely ride, amidst his loaded fleets, unhackled with heavy imposts; and that industrious Trade should find employment amidst his busy artists, and laborious manufacturers, under the favour of peculiar protection.

For this purpose I chose, from among the nobility, a PERSONAGE respectable in his *senatorial* character, who was not excelled in his *loyalty* to his king, and *love* to his country; who, past the age of passion, was arrived at the maturity of rational manhood. Endowed by Nature with an extensive capacity; a penetrating judgment, and a happy facility in the executions of genius, not ever weakened by the excursions of youth: he had perfected his mind with useful and polite literature, joined to the knowledge of men, manners, and opinions. A persuasive orator in the senate; an upright counsellor in the cabinet, and an uncorruptible minister of state; he always steered amidst the shelves of faction, and the storms of party rage, with steady fortitude. Under the auspices of a personage so able, Commerce knew perfection; for nothing escaped his vigilance, assiduity, and foresight. He completed new branches in Trade; supported the languishing, and perfected the unaccomplished. Thus a navy was established; useful Industry employed the poor; Prosperity smiled in our harbours, and Plenty smiled

in our streets; for Agriculture had a favourite encouragement.

Beholding that my people groaned under loads of imposts, which I had before laid on the nations broad shoulders; able indeed to bear much; and good policy it should sustain a little: I resolved to strike a grand stroke in spite of interested murmurs, and lessen a weight under which the very foundation of government began to totter, though the superb edifice, bearing aloft its elevated front, made a splendid appearance. The great affair was publicly scrutinized, and the arguments against narrow, partial, and self-counsel ran thus---To lighten in part the ponderous structure, how few will be affected! How many profited? To let it stand thus loaded may be dangerous, when sudden emergencies forcibly add to its weight an unequal burthen, which in time must demolish the fabric, and bury in its ruins the whole nation. The next grand question was, how it could be effected? Then the task was half performed, for on all hands it was not pronounced utterly impracticable. A thousand schemes were ventilated; some hit, some failed; but vigorous exertions, animated with undaunted resolution, surmounting the rocks of Difficulty; attacking Danger; storming Opposition, and boldly mounting the breach, planted soon the ensigns of victory on the fortress of Oppression, and opened the gates of Peace and Plenty.

Properly



Properly supporting the dignity of nobles, I shielded the lower rank from extortion, rendering the paths of Justice easy, its process cheap, and its decisions speedy; it being an indelible scandal on government, that nothing should be so lawless as law, or more unjust than justice! The spirit I exerted in conquering nations wrongfully, was now in a just cause inflamed with ardour; and I overthrew whole armies of useless customs, inveterate formalities, wicked niceties, ruinous distinctions, and a thousand money-catching rascalities. Yet I rendered honest lawyers, and upright judges, awfully respectable. I sought to know every grievance of my people, and dared to send redress in spite of every proud connexion.

Though I found it impossible to conquer that hydra luxury, yet withstanding its encroachments, I set bounds to its enervating progress, fearless of Pride and Vanity: giving countenance to neat Frugality, and honest Simplicity; yet adorning the city with the noblest structures of magnificence. Thus producing real benefits to my country, by the vigour of unbiassed good-will, positive to produce effect, without seeking or wishing popularity, I was adored by a people who applauded from their feelings; for Peace, Pleasure, and Plenty, reiterated their enjoyments, while many of the unfortunate found balmy alleviations from the hand of Benevolence. Here, by giving up some few self-motives,  
which

which indeed at first was painful, there came such abundant harvests of pleasure, in the study and exercise of rendering the body of the nation happy, that earth cannot bestow a more lasting and sincere felicity!

Thus I grew old in my people's love, when ambassadors arrived from kingdoms I had subdued, to request they might no longer be tributary. I gave them audience seated on my throne, surrounded with my guards, seemingly out of the reach of danger's arm, and shielded from mischief, in the bosom of protecting love; when a fair youth of the ambassador's train, stepping forward cried, O now, ye Gods, assist my vengeance. Then plucking from his vest a little javelin, in a moment he winged its passage deep under my heart. I fell back on my throne. My attendants shrieked with horror at the deed detestable! The soldiers seizing the wretch, who in the scuffle almost escaped, were for hewing him into pieces, but the captain of the guard commanded them to desist, that he might detect the whole conspiracy.

Recovering a little, and knowing my life was drawing to its grand cessation, I would not suffer the javelin to be extracted, till I had heard what the traitor declared. I demanded to know what was the wicked cause that instigated his vile hand to murder a king who never could give him offence? To which he thus replied, undaunted. When thou, in  
the

the rage of proud ambition, camest destroying half the world, entering the kingdom with fire and sword, in which my father Zanga was a faithful subject, valiently opposing thy arms, true to his king and country; him for his loyalty, which merited thy veneration, if thy heart had known honour; didst thou not despoil of all his fortune, and give his patrimony to a traitor? didst thou not hear his complaint with contempt? Yes, tyrant, thou didst! and my parents sunk beneath thy oppression on the thorny pillow of Poverty! When this I heard, as thou wert above human laws, the Gods consenting to my vow! I devoted my life, to retaliate on thee their loss of life; and now it is effected, here I stand a willing victim to thy utmost revenge, since I have now vindicated the destruction of my family. So help me all ye Gods!

He ended a hero! and I said, hear me ye nobles, and be obedient my people to this last command. As all his intimations are truth, and I confess the justice of this chastisement, I give the youth his freedom; and require you to see his patrimony restored; which if not possible, I order a retaliation to be made him out of the effects I leave; the rest I bequeath to my people; and may the Gods, accepting this last piece of justice, pardon the multitude of my offences, and let my life, for the many lives I have destroyed, be an atonement. So saying, I bowed my head,  
and

and my spirit, released from its decayed tenement, was conducted in a moment far away, by the angel of death. Thus in the dust fell the mighty conqueror !

*The Third* TRANSMIGRATION of ZANGOLA.

*The Punishment of tyrannic Ambition. A Comet peopled, described, and swallowed in the Sun.*

When I appeared before earth's angelic superintendant, who, seated on his throne beneath a vapour formed canopy, tinged with purple and silver, beholding my trembling approach: for unimbodied I regained my native faculties, he said; breaking through the laws of duty and command, you almost incurred an irrevocable doom; but thy penitence after misfortune obtains thee another probation.

The whole solar system consisting of the central sun, around which various planets and their satellities, with the comets revolve, was created alone for the punishment, probation, and defecation of the lapsed angels; till through the merits of the god-like Messiah, fitted by their obedience, they regain the lost dwellings of perfect happiness. To me, Abdiel added, was consigned the power of carrying on the allotted trials, and inflicting the dooms of the failing spirits. It was the great desire of thy soul to become the first of mankind, and thy ambition was gratified. But  
what



what was the consequence? Didst thou not prove a tyrant? and without making thyself happy, didst thou not hurl millions into misery; when it was thy duty to have rendered every creature in the sphere of thy activity happy? Ruined families and slaughtered multitudes call out for vengeance, which not denied, is shortened by thy late repentance: and I read in the mandates of heaven, that thy punishment will carry thee through various stations in existence, before thou canst be admitted to another probation. He said, and charged a cometary angel with my destiny, I bowed dutious.

*The Fourth* TRANSMIGRATION.

The obedient power conveyed me to his rapid car, which, as he prest the elastic springs, cut through parting space, swifter than red-winged lightening travelling over the fields of darkness. Soon we came within ken of a fiery-tailed comet, receding in a long ellipsis from its burning centre the sun. That planet, said the angel, is for some time thy destined habitation. Then he conducted me into its vapoury atmosphere, from which, by divine permission, he moulded, with concurring particles flying off the solid globe, a vehicle or body analogous to the human form, but larger, hardier, more robust, and of such a curious texture, not to be destroyed by extremes of heat and cold; yet preserving sensation to the soul by nervous fibres, in a man-

ner as men are susceptible of pain and pleasure, with similar feelings : adapting all to my station.

When my body was complete, I was inducted in the vast machine, and all its powers and movements soon, by his aid, became familiar to my spirit, now used to confinement. Then the angel introduced me to the body of the comet, which arrived now to its happy mediate distance from the sun, between the two extremes of excessive heat, and immense cold. Nature recovering from its parched station, as the comet began to cool, soon revived by the refreshing showers continually falling from the aqueous atmosphere; which was a dense screen, and shaded off in some measure the prodigious fire, the velocity of the sunny ray put in motion around us, but continually broke, damped and blunted by the fountains of water which surrounding us, for ever fell in cooling showers. In an instant the barren surface of the comet, scorched and vitrified by its near approach to the sun, gaining its tone of vegetation, began to quicken; and as by magic, herbs, flowers, trees, fruit, and grain, uprose delightful, ripened to maturity, and were gathered; and deposited in excessively deep caverns, for the subsistence of the inhabitants.

The system of the whole cometary world, as it is little else but a station of mere punishment, is analogous to the earth in its most imperfect state, and the worst of its natives.

There

There are kingdoms and governments in the comets, but they are continually thrown into confusion and anarchy, by the vile passions of Cometarians; whom the severest penalties, terribly inflicted, can seldom restrain. They are for ever in violent parties, stirring fierce rebellions; pulling down one king to raise up another, and waging the most cruel civil wars; or with other kingdoms fighting horrible battles, amidst the fires of a burning element, and the outrage of amazing tempests.

The globe is principally peopled by the most wicked and notorious offenders from the earth, with a mungrel mixture of the best of the demoniac powers; and as it is not a seat of trial, or a state to refine nature, man arriving here with his soul enslaved by the strongest habits of indulging the passions; such creatures must be in a miserable state of defection; and accordingly the inhabitants are not happy, but are continually engaged in direful enmities, void of all friendship. Peace, pleasure, and sweet content, very seldom visit these domains. Nor do benevolence, mercy, kindness, honour, virtue, goodness, or any of the gentle affections sway the bosom; but all within it is dark, moved by fierce revenge, anger, wrath, hatred, envy, cruelty, selfishness; and the heart is a prey to the most outrageous appetites still ungratified; while all the powers of the understanding are employed in the machinations of evil.

The year is performed by a revolution round the sun, but makes an enormous ellipsis out of all proportion, by which the comet passes so near the sun, as to be in danger of being attracted within its vortex, and becoming totally confluent. Thus hastily revolving in excessive light and heat, growing slower and slower as it recedes from bright Phebus, it launches out to the extreme verge of cold and darkness, wandering as it were, though in its boundary, through the heavens, dispensing among the planets fiery matter, dews, and copious showers of aqueous particles, which replenish the orbs too much exhausted by the solar rays and vegetation.

When the comet is at its farthest distance from the sun, no language can describe that terrible tyranny which the inhabitants suffer from the reign of Chaos; who hurls on the defenceless domains, stormy winds in direful tempests, and deluges with endless cataracts of waters, pouring from above, mixt with feathery snow, clattering hail, thunder and lightning. Then he sends on the wings of stern winter, blasts of winds, fraught with excessive coldness, pinching the most hardy and gigantic almost to death with excess of bitter frost, whose petrific mace nothing can withstand; thus shivering, dying on hills of ice, and mountains of snow. But the year being divided into four parts, Hope cheers the dying soul with the rays of better expectation. The comet



comet going from the sun before it arrives at the regions of cold, gains the middle point, which is a kind of temperate summer; and returning round the cold verge, before it approaches the sunny region, again it likewise rests in the intermediate side; twice a pleasing relaxation from being broiled or froze to death!

Thus I carried on a miserable existence among the Cometarians, vexatiously engaged with parties, mixing among distracting tumults, entangled in harassing feuds, rebelling against superior power, baffled, defeated, imprisoned, and cruelly tormented in agonizing sufferings; till released and exalted, I fiercely gratified revenge, and every evil disposition to the utmost stretch of wickedness. As if it was not sufficient to undergo the most painful extremes of heat and cold, to degrees of inexpressible misery, we must torment the mind with such excruciating pangs, that we rendered ourselves incapable, as well as unworthy of the little satisfactions permitted for our enjoyment. At length our comet performing its office in the system, supplying the planets, and carrying on various uses, the sun began, after so long wasting itself by its copious emissions of light, to require sustenance; and accordingly as our atmosphere approached, it gave a more fiery tail, and more forcibly attracted us to its surface. We saw the consequence and trembled, but yet grew towards

towards each other more cruel and wicked. Then amidst vast explosions of thunder, our atmosphere became absorbed, and now all of us having power given to bear the sight, being as upon deck, we sailed with dire velocity towards the horrid ocean, were sucked into the fiery gulf of the burning sun, and expired in the most dreadful of all conflagrations! I shudder at the very remembrance!

*The Fifth* TRANSMIGRATION.

Material fire having no power over spiritual essence, I was conducted back to the earth; and that great mind, which a world before seemed too small to contain, was crowded now as it were into a knit, which opening by maternal warmth, I became in full maturity a *mite*, to the naked eye imperceptible. The whole travels of my life were bounded by the circumference of an inch! What a shrinking in of soul was that? You stare!----but where, my friend, is the ridicule, of shutting up the spirit of that Alexander you have admired, in the smallest atom; who vainly wept he had no other worlds to ruin, and who made so vile a use of the power of extension?

Short, indeed, was my existence in that state, for after I had performed the trifling functions of my life, such as digesting a few atoms, becoming a parent, and moving a few moments, I slipped my strait and irksome confine-

confinement, not without peculiar pains and feelings past description. Then my naked soul floating in space, was propelled into the central fluid, poised in the yolk of an egg.

*The Sixth TRANSMIGRATION.*

*The Conqueror's Chastisement continued.*

My next transmigration bore some analogy to my former martial disposition, for I became a sprightly game-cock. When I was young, I indeed suffered the insults of the dung-hill brood, but not out of cowardice; and soon finding my strength equal to my courage, I shewed a lively resentment to all who dared to prescribe my walk, and bounce me from the pullets. At length attacked by a large dung-hill cock, who was robed with grand featherage; though he cuffed me down with his heavy jumps, picked my comb with his strong beak, and flapped me off with his broad wings, yet I supported myself with such courage and agility, that he barely kept the field of battle, swelling out his breast, and crowing vociferous triumph.

I chose the side of a favourite hen, and our tender regard was mutual. At night we together went to roost, slept by each other's side, and at the opened morn I called her forth with my shrill pipe, answering to my feathery neighbours; and when, scratching by her loved side, I found a grain, I clucked, and fondly resigned it to her ivory bill. The  
captain

captain of the dung-hill beholding our loves completed, as the sun arising cheered the spirits to amorous parleys, rushed with flapping wings to ravish my screaming bride before my face. Animated with love and revenge, thundering I flew, and checked his progress before the whole brood; and fighting with uncommon fury, in spite of all his efforts, I kept my ground; my courage still rising, while his flagged, till I beat the great coward with my sharp spurs, and made him run squalling. Then ascending the dung-hill, and flapping my wings, crowing aloud, I proclaimed myself captain, ever after maintaining my dignity by hectoring over the whole community.

But soon the time came, after due training, that I was to shew my prowess on a nobler stage; for I was pitched upon by my master to fight a great battle with another of the game. Accordingly the time arriving, I was armed with gauntlets, and presented in the midst of a cock-pit, which was the area of an amphitheatre, lined with multitudes of rogues, gulls, and shouting spectators; and undaunted I answered their applause with repeated crowings. But surely nothing can be more derogatory to a civilized being, than giving countenance to diversions only fit for barbarians who love blood in their sports: for in a polished country it argues a savage nature, to delight in spectacles so full of cruelty.



ty. But what makes it worse, gentlemen give protection, and even become one among a set of villains, gamesters, and cheats, who playing for money, practise all manner of roguery. Thus a Chinese prince of the blood was justly degraded, for attending these battles.

Cheared by our seconds, and our valourous spirits aroused, we soon began the attack, after flapping our wings: then springing up alert, we cut one another in a terrible manner, till covered with blood, and gashed with wounds, we brought transports to the eyes of Cruelty. To our strength and courage, we shewed the arts of generalship, in feints, retreats, and unexpected attacks; till at length, calling up all my powers, I struck my enemy through the brain, at which he darted upwards, and tumbled dead at my feet. Then standing on his back, I joined the outcries of the winners with noisy rejoicings.

Not long did I enjoy my victory, for weak as I was, my master challenged me against a fresh soldier, and was accepted. I met my rival in fame undaunted; and finding my strength almost exhausted, I husbanded the little that remained, springing sure to my blow; while he flew careless strokes, far above my down-dropping head: but just as I was on the point of conquest, he gave me an unlucky cut in the gullet, that faint with loss of blood and spirits, I dropped never to rise, and left him victor amidst the pities and applauses of the barbarians.

Z'ANGOLA'S *Seventh* TRANSFORMATION,*Which concludes the Punishment of cruel Ambition.*

Thus again divested of form, and greatly agitated, seeking as it were a covering, I was impelled by my former undeterged love of carnage, into the just forming vehicle of a leopard. And where, according to common reason, and the nature of things, is there in this an impropriety? Here in China you frequently behold a kolao, or minister of state, for misdemeanours, degraded into a common sentinel; guarding the palace gate which before he entered, as a companion and counsellor to its mighty monarch. And are there not men, who though retaining the human form, yet have not preserved one gentle spark of humanity, to warm them to benevolence? whose hearts are so utterly abandoned, and resigned to the dictates of mean selfishness, and so callous, as to feel or encourage but for what concerns themselves, no sensibility; yet drawing from others with judicious pliancy, a world of beneficial advantages! Thus may be traced the strongest analogy between men and brutes: while some few, in unseduced infancy, appear with lamb-like innocence, and the amiably tender dove's kindness modulates the mind of others: how many stand forth staring mere bears, wolves, foxes, and tygers; making prey on the weakness, folly, and  
vices

vices of mankind? Were such as these instantaneously transformed into the creatures they represent, the transition would be little, and the things not ridiculous. Do you not every day behold the hairy caterpillar metamorphosed into a butterfly; and from a creeping worm become a beautiful insect, adorned with brilliant elegance? which is not more surprizing than Transmigration, only as not being relative to man. This of degeneracy. But how inestimably precious to the eyes of the most exalted beings, must be that person, who surrounded in a world of sad seduction, by powerful temptations; and bearing within him a nature prone to delight in evil; yet from a principle of duty to his creator, sets himself to withstand his depraved disposition, to regain new and better affections on the ruins of the old, and to refine his nature! This is God-like, and his change will be adequate. But how despicable those persons whom heaven has endowed with superior qualities of mind; to solid sense has joined a good disposition, and giving an amiable figure, has placed them in exalted stations; how detestable must they appear to vitiate ungratefully, and pollute themselves meanly, with the follies and vices of a world, to which they ought to have risen superior, in an orb of goodness shining down examples and benefits to inferior stations? Oh, wish not to be rich and beautiful.

Born in the cavern of an extensive forest, I was the only whelp of my fond mother, who, though a declared enemy to most creatures, was tender of her off-spring. In time my bony limbs extending, I became a spotted leopard; my mother feeding me with the prey she instructed me to catch for life's support. Playful in the warm sun, aside our secret retreat, I would uncoothly sport around my studious parent. Then growing more robust in a kind of martial exercise, I tried my limbs preparative of war; climed up with awkward legs the sandy rock, tumbling unexperienced heavily down its mossy sides, and recovering I would leap up as to my prey, seize the pollard's taper back, and whet my infant claws; grin with tender teeth half grown, preluding to future battle; or crouch in the bushy shrub; then spring alert, and scour along the hilly slope.

Thus the powers of my mind were constrained to act by the coarser organization, and to know by peculiar sensation: the rational faculty deeply clouded by its carnal contact, could only emit a few partial rays, in confined directions, which was instinct; and while other qualities were locked up, and inveloped with flesh, yet full swing was given to a few passions and appetites, which of necessity with the outward form constituted the species. So may a glorious spirit live and put forth actions, yet only be an oyster!

Thus



Thus the fondness of desire between the sexes for propagation, the affection of the mother for preservation, the hunger of appetite to maintain, and ferocity of courage to procure; and all the senses in auxiliary perfection served to keep up the race, as it were by mechanism.

Arriving at leopardine maturity, beautifully spotted, being a male, I chose, or was attracted, by a female mate, before whom I growled intolerable love, and was accepted; the passions and sharp appetites bearing the sting of youthful and ever-edged keenness. Together we scoured the forest for food, hunting beneath the silent moon, or by each other's side, faithfully fought against all opposition. I boldly led the way, hazardous to seize the trembling flocks of the hills, and pursue the grazing herds, scattered over the plain; while amidst the toils and dangers of the undaunted and contriving hunters, she would follow, assist in tearing down the spurning bull in spite of all his strength, not intimidated by his loud roar, or repelled by his strong-pointed horns: and sharing together the plunder, over which growling, we scarcely forbore to quarrel, we glutted ourselves with blood and cruelty; then we would stalk to our mossy den, and snore away the day.

Our habitation was in the bosom of a rocky hill, buried in a forest, at the extremity of a desert, covered with brambles, and crowned with

with lofty trees, deep shading the narrow entrance; which was an aperture that, black opening, yawned dismal before a path, worn through tangling shrubs by our frequent ingress. One evening as night advanced, a terrible tempest overtook a traveller, and drove him into the forest, to escape the fiery lightening's threatening flash, which now excessive darkness over-spread the face of nature, served visibly to reveal horror in all his direful shapes, where before he was only in idea painfully uncertain.

But soon a peal of thunder bursting over the dismayed passenger's head, hurrying over him a showery deluge, obliged him to forsake the dropping trees, which now wet him to the very skin. With trembling nerves, and tottery feet, from this to that covert, which now afforded no friendly retreat, he bent his cautious steps; ever and anon starting as he heard the loud explosions, inmixed with more terrific sounds of prowling savages; whose disastrous roarings, by the hills and vaulted grottos reverberated, appaled his soul. Soon by the light of a broad flash, that foreran the loud burst of thunder, he beheld with joy the opening that led to our cavern, and with eager haste he ran, in hope to find a happy shelter; yet fearing, now from the storm secure, that where he sought for safety, he might meet with destruction.

At

At length with undetermined steps, sinking with varied fears and terrors, his anxious foreboding heart imaging irresistible danger from shaggy lions, and all the bloody monsters of the wood, he entered our gloomy cave; whose vaulted roof resounding with his crackling tread, while his breath came short, awakened the nicer ear of my mate, who roaring loud aroused me from sleep. Starting on my feet, I smelt fresh the human scent, and rebellowing sprang to seize the horribly confounded traveller. What were his distresses? past description, and worse than dying! But I soon put him out of his pain, for as he turned to escape I followed quickly after, beat him down, tore off his opposing hand, and then we made a monstrous feast on his gory limbs, quivering with the nerve of life; while to his bitter screams we growled horrific, with infernal triumph! O wretched man, how art thou surrounded with hosts of evil!

One morning while the sun arose, after I had been ranging the forest alone, in quest of prey, and was returning to repose my weary limbs with sleep in my cool cavern; as I was drinking at a brook, delightfully assuaging my thirst in a kind of vale of grass, surrounded by trees: starting I heard among the shrubs a rustling, and looking round, I beheld, quite astonished, the terror of the wood, a fire-eyed lion, grim of aspect, driving towards me with his shaggy main bristling

ting up, through the tangled brake. I saw my superior, and trembled for the consequence, yet, used to conquer, I disdained to fly; especially as he was but young. Indeed I opened a passage to give him clear his line of direction, but he looked terrible battle. His brawny neck thickly disordered with hair, sheltered invincible strength. His mouth opened immense horror, grinning terrific teeth. His whizzing tail lashed his broad back, or swept his huge big-boned legs, armed with dreadful claws; while his hideous roar denounced war, and shook the forest, proclaiming the approach of its angry king in thunder!

Fear now seizing my heart, first prevailed over my fierce courage. I couched back, looking terrified, and would have fled, had fair escape been open: but as he drew near, my ferocity, urged by despair, kindled with redoubled vigour. The voracious lion now cleared, rushed towards me with headlong force, to overturn me with weight of flesh, or lifting up his vast paw, to beat me down by bony strength: but cat-like, springing sideways, I eluded the onset, and darting forward, seized his shoulder, too nimble for such a clumsy Ajax. With sharp set fangs, I tore off, snarling hideous, a goary mouthful. At which his fury arising outrageous, rebellowing to the hills he expressed his anguish, and threatened destruction. He leaped at me  
all



all furious, and not being able to withstand the shock, I suffered his gripe, and willingly fell on my back, while snorting over me he seized my throat: but my hinder paws being at liberty, with my sharp long talons, I harrowed up the softer skin of his abdomen, and should have torn out his very intestines, if he had not unfastened his firm hold. He did: he roared; and grinned destructive with jaws amazing.

In a moment with agility I sprung upon my feet, and losing no time, flew on my weakened foe; he received my attack with grim anger and disdain, and after I pierced his tawny coat, he shook me off with a deep wound. Then tearing up the earth, exerting all his strength, he galloped upon me with redoubled force; he beat me easily down, and overturned himself. Uprolling, panting, bleeding, foaming, both scorning to fly, we turned face to face, and renewed the attack. Earth shook beneath our feet. The forest with our cries resounded; and amidst clouds of dust, we exerted all our prowess. At length dashing me to the ground, he tore open my throat, while in the agonies of death, I cut his arterial vessels; and now, half weakened by former wounds, he tottered and reeled with loss of blood; till satiating his revenge with wrenching off my limbs, he sunk at my side, groaning a miserable triumph; and together we both expired. So nations worry each

other to death, and to as little purpose! Here Zangola stopped, and made a pause conclusive, softening his voice to a gentle period.

When we consider the actual presence of that horrid monster Cruelty, who reigns dominant over the globe; and that all things are produced, and the whole universe is superintended by an Almighty Creator, who of all beings is the most beneficent, how astonishing it is to think, without pre-existence, that so inhuman a principle should be interwoven throughout our terraqueous system? The whole race of animation are in a state of war with each other, and to devour an enemy gives the greatest joy. Many creatures seem paradoxically sent here to propagate and to destroy; and if not dangerous in nature, are useless and insignificant. How many are bound to prey upon each other for their very sustenance? while at last tyrant man, the great devourer, is himself devoured by worms! O humiliating circumstance to those who are excessively fond of a frail exterior; that empty bubble; and a painted vapour! What amazing ferocity glares in many creatures, who internally impelled, take a shocking delight in destruction; with monstrous teeth, claws, strength, and agility, adequate to their native propensities. These you may say act mechanically. Granted.

But even man, the lord of creation, the master-piece of Nature, who has free will,  
and

and reason, is himself direfully tinctured with this savage disposition. How many are insensible to the misery they bestow on others? if they receive from it any profit or pleasure, How cold is man to relieve the sufferer; maulgre the voice of charity, where he is not interested? But some obtain a horrid joy in the carnage and devastations of war; glorying to see the infernal mine blow up thousands! while many receive a careless satisfaction in killing the helpless race; whom, nor the elegance of their shape, the beauty of their glossy vesture, nor the artless music of their voices, can mollify; though sweetly tuning, as it were, the softest prayers and tender supplications!

The reason of all this seems deeply hid! But however latent the cause, this is most positive truth, that barbarity debases the vital principle to the lowest step of degeneracy: and that nothing raises human nature to such a sublime exaltation, as active Mercy! She instructs us worthily to imitate the best, and most glorious of all beings! Sweetness of temper, and gentleness of manners; where ready pardon smiles gracious on frail offenders; where humanity assists the unfortunate, and where honour rewards the deserving, gives us the finest polish, and the finest pleasure! How enobling then is generosity of soul? which uncontracting from the narrow sphere of self, flows out upon all beneath, a sun of bene-

beneficence! receiving in return the incense of innumerable praises here, and hereafter a glorious immortality!

Thus he was, man may shine like a God on earth, in the heavenly orb of an enlarged generosity; beaming all around the copious rays of universal blessedness—Is it not wonderful, that any among the elevated in rank can be groveling and tyrannic! be stained with baseness! and tinctured with insensibility!

**END of the FIRST VOLUME;**





